

Government is expected to survive vote on economy

Liberals are not expected to oppose the Government when the Chancellor's economic measures come up for approval in the Commons Wednesday. Mr Callaghan has indicated that he will take the vote as equivalent to one of confidence and, our Political Correspondent says, he should obtain a reasonable majority.

Liberals may demand state pay discipline

Mr Clark, our Political Correspondent, says that the Government's further lease of power for a whole parliamentary session simply in return for paper promises is a willpower shown by ministers in standing up to excessive wage demands. He said: "If the Government falters in this main task, I hope the Liberals will withdraw their support. I shall certainly withdraw mine." For some months there have been only one reason for middle-of-the-road people to prefer a Labour or a Conservative government: it was the hope that the close cooperation of the unions with the Government was a national asset in the fight against inflation. "Powerful sections of the so-called Labour movement have now destroyed the reputation of this belief," he said. The Government's determination to hold the line would be severely tested in some of the wage battles now inevitable in the autumn and winter in the public sector. Would the Government be able to cope, he asked. "The question was not answered in the Chancellor's statement in the House. It can only be answered when the Government is challenged by a powerful trade union."

Support for the Chancellor's statement in the House. It can only be answered when the Government is challenged by a powerful trade union. An Opinion Research Centre poll indicates that most people support the Chancellor's target of a maximum rise in earnings of 10 per cent during the next 12 months (the Press Association reports). The poll was carried out for Independent Television News throughout Britain on Saturday. Responses of those interviewed, when asked if, in general, the 10 per cent guideline was too high, too low or about right, were as follows: Too high, 17 per cent; about right, 54 per cent; too low, 29 per cent (don't know excluded, 7 per cent). Replies to the question whether the pay guidelines were too high, too low or about right for individuals and their families were: too high, 15 per cent; about right, 49 per cent; too low, 36 per cent (don't know excluded, 8 per cent). There was little significant difference between supporters of the various parties on both questions. Although most people thought that the pay guidelines should be voluntary, just over 40 per cent said that they should be binding by law. The replies in percentages were: Guidelines be compulsory by law, 42; be voluntary, 58 (don't know excluded, 10). If the guidelines are opposed by the unions and lead to strikes, an overwhelming majority, nearly 4 to 1, thought that the guidelines should be maintained: Pay what unions ask, 21 per cent; keep to guidelines even if that leads to strikes, 79 per cent (don't know excluded, 10 per cent). The interviews for the poll were carried out with a nationally representative quota sample of 661 adults in 22 parliamentary constituencies.

Doctors' dilemmas and Mr Callaghan in Durham, page 2

After the looting, New York judicial system is 'in pieces, like the city'

From Nicholas Fraser, New York, July 17. Lee Grant is small for his 19 years. His sports shirt is faded and his white jeans soiled. He has a wispy approximation of an Afro hair style and an expression of abject resignation. He has spent the last three nights in the Riker's Island correctional facility, as one of the 4,000 people arrested on charges of looting while New York was blacked out. Now he has come to Room 129 of the Manhattan Criminal Court. Judge William Logan is becoming impatient. This is his tenth case this morning and only 230 of the 430 arraign-

ments scheduled in Manhattan have so far been attended to. The problems are formidable; matching police witnesses with the huge number of defendants and arranging transport from city cells, some of which the city has had to reopen. Defence cases are being handled by the city's legal aid association lawyers, three of whom sit on the judge's right hand at a table covered with case histories in envelopes. They work in rota, taking on a defendant as he comes up from the cells. Lee's case is handled by Mr Rudy Taylor, who is young, articulate and black. "There is a conspiracy between the district attorney and the judiciary," he says. "They are asking bail twice as high as usual and refusing parole. The word has been sent around to be specially harsh on looters."

The legal aid society has brought a class action against the city's prisons on behalf of those held, alleging they were denied prompt administration of justice and improperly detained in overcrowded cells. Toilets are leaking, food is insufficient, and with the temperature in the 90s each day the prison's air conditioning in many cases has broken down. In the court, Mr Taylor incurs the judge's ire by demanding that Lee's charges be read aloud, a procedure that is usually omitted. Documents are submitted by a police officer in jeans and a sports shirt. There is the murmur of judicial interchanges. Mr Grant is on probation, he has been convicted twice previously for theft. Mr Grant's father has not been able to come to court but is prepared to offer \$300 (\$190) bail. "No, I'll set \$1,500," says the judge. Lee is taken back to the cells and thence to Riker's Island. "The system is in pieces, just like the city," explains a police officer, Mr John O'Connor. He was on duty for 25 consecutive hours during the black-out and he is pale and edgy from lack of sleep. He has not been home since Wednesday and he has spent the past two days hanging round courts to be present at the arraignments of the eight arrests he made. "These days have been the worst in my 10 years as a city cop," he says. "We don't have enough men to deal with emergencies like this and I can't take it much longer."

Chancellor to offer MPs deal on tax changes

By Our Political Correspondent. The Government intends to ask the Commons on Thursday to reject the amendments carried in the Finance Bill standing committee on June 14, committing this and future Governments to the indexation of tax allowances to take account of the effects of inflation unless a special order to the contrary were carried in Parliament. The amendments, now incorporated in clause 22 of the revised Finance Bill, were carried on the initiative of Mr Jeffrey Rooker, Labour MP for Perry, and Mr Nigel Lawson, Conservative MP for Blaby, shortly after the Government had suffered defeats on personal allowances which would have had the effect of reducing personal taxation by nearly £450m.



Dennis Coates, a steeplechaser, hands out defeat to Vladimir Filonov, of the Soviet Union, at Crystal Palace yesterday and helps Britain to qualify for the European Cup final. Report, page 7.

Bishop Muzorewa lays down his terms for talks with Mr Smith

From Frederick Cleary, Salisbury, July 17. Bishop Muzorewa, leader of the United African National Council, said today he had no intention of forming an alliance with the Rev Ndabaningi Sithole, who returned from two years' self-imposed exile last week to work for a peaceful settlement. The bishop said he was interested in talking to Mr Smith, the Prime Minister, only if it was to transfer power from the minority to the majority. He was not interested in having talks about talks about some kind of sell-out deal. A crowd of several thousands turned out to greet the nationalist leader. He had been out of the country for six weeks seeking international support in face of growing recognition of the rival Patriotic Front of Mr Joshua Nkomo and Mr Robert Mugabe. There had been talk of the bishop forming an alliance with Mr Sithole; such a team could command enormous support among Rhodesian Africans. The bishop evaded questions on whether he would accept Mr Sithole as a junior partner within the national council. He was particularly critical of Mr Nkomo, whom he alleged had started a civil war. He accused Mr Nkomo of being responsible for shooting and bombings in a campaign of intimidation. Mr Nkomo's partner, Mr Mugabe, was a temporary tool and was only being used by President Kaunda, of Zambia, to impose Mr Nkomo on Zimbabwe. The bishop condemned President Kaunda for persuading the Organisation of African Unity to support the Patriotic Front. He believed the present war would end the moment power was handed to his organization because the guerrillas would have achieved what they were fighting for. Bishop Muzorewa said officers in the present security forces in Rhodesia would have to stand down in any possible settlement deal. Commonwealth and United Nations countries might provide peace-keeping forces and control elections. Doreen Salaman, Mr Nkomo and Mr Mugabe announced here that they had taken new decisions aimed at unifying their guerrilla armies. During a two-day meeting here, they accepted proposals from a special sub-committee of military experts who visited guerrilla camps in Tanzania, Zambia and Mozambique and suggested how the factions might be united.—Reuter. Photograph, page 4

Provisional IRA widen use of radio bombs

From Stewart Tindler, Belfast. Army explosives experts in Northern Ireland are trying to combat the increased use of radio-controlled bombs. The devices include a "black box" system which scrambles the radio message to set off the bomb and prevents interference. Radio-controlled bombs based on parts used for model aircraft, were first discovered in 1972. There had never been more than 11 in each of the next four years, but already 12 have been used this year. At one stage they were restricted to attacks on the fast and were not seen in the city for nearly three years. But in the past few months at least three have been used in Belfast, and one blew up an Army patrol of four men as it passed a parked van. In the past 12 months, two soldiers, at Crossmaglen, Co. Down, were killed and at least 20 other members of the security forces were injured in attacks. The latest incident was at Ballynahinch, Co. Down, a few days ago, when a van was left on a country road with a large bomb inside. There is speculation that the increasing use of the bombs may mean that the Provisional IRA are short of explosives as a result of curbs in the Irish Republic and have decided to use their bombs more creatively. They may equally be hoarding supplies or simply moving over to that type of device. The number of bombs used this year is said to be half that in the same period of last year but radio-controlled bombs form an increasing proportion. The parts are fairly easy to obtain singly without restrictions but a Post Office licence is needed for their use on wavebands reserved for model aircraft filers. In many orthodox attempts to ambush Army vehicles, a bomb is left beside a road and wires taken to a point where it can be exploded. The radio-controlled bomb can be used at a greater distance than others, but an observer is needed between the device and its controller to give warning when a likely target is in position. The "black box" system fitted to the transmitter and the receiver to prevent any radio interference is simple to construct and may be made in the Irish Republic. The radio-control system means that there are no tell-tale wires or timing devices to go wrong. It is said that in some areas where the bombs have been used Army patrols have forewarned the cover of walls to operate in the open rather than risk passing close to a vehicle. Doy shot: A boy, aged 15, who was in the back of a van, was shot in the foot last night when the vehicle was backfired as it passed Crumlin Road prison in Belfast (the Press Association reports). A soldier on duty at the prison heard the backfire, thought he was under attack and fired one shot.

Police threat to family, editor says

From Ronald Kershaw, Barnsley. Mr Maurice Jones, the journalist who disappeared after his arrest on the Grunwick picket line and turned up in East Germany, left Britain because of police threats against his wife and daughter, he has alleged in a letter to Mr Arthur Scargill, the Yorkshire miners' leader. Jones, a communist and editor of the Yorkshire Miners' National Union of Mine-workers' (NUM) newspaper, left his home in Sheffield on June 27 with his 11-year-old wife, Leena, and his daughter, Anna, aged three. He was understood to be seeking asylum in East Germany. The text of the typewritten letter was released by Mr Scargill at a Barnsley press conference yesterday. It gave the sender's address as Amblemeim 124, Furstenwalde, PSF 62, German Democratic Republic. [The address shows that it is a reception centre where prospective applicants for asylum are interviewed before a decision is taken, our Berlin Correspondent writes. Furstenwalde is on the outskirts of Berlin.] The letter, signed Maurice, arrived at the NUM offices in Barnsley on Saturday, 10 days after posting. It had been left open at one side. It began: "Dear Arthur, I write this letter to you with tears in my eyes and my life in ruins." The writer goes on to describe how he was taken to Wembley police station after his arrest on the Grunwick picket line. He was seen for three or four minutes by "two plainclothes gentlemen" who had a file about him. One of the policemen quoted extensively from the file. "The letter added: 'He knew so much about me that I expected him to tell me when I bought my last pair of socks.'"

Police are suspended after drugs theft

By Clive Borrell, Crime Correspondent. Two detectives attached to Scotland Yard's drugs squad have been suspended from duty after the theft from a police store of 900lb of cannabis valued at £500,000. The theft came to light when principal officers seized 100lb of cannabis during a raid. It was found to contain traces of chemicals used in forensic laboratory tests. A Scotland Yard investigation showed that the cannabis was part of a much larger quantity that had been kept in a Metropolitan Police store at Wapping. The store has been used for some time for drugs involved in court cases. The two officers, a detective sergeant and a detective constable, have been suspended on full pay pending the outcome of an investigation by Detective Chief Supt Thomas Lemon, of the Complaints Investigations Bureau. Several prosecutions for unlawful possession of drugs are likely to be postponed and some may have to be dropped unless the remaining 800lb of cannabis is traced and can be identified as having been in the store-room.



"They gave me back my home, my friends, my whole way of life"

When one has known a certain way of life, and rising costs look like taking it all away, who is there for people like us to turn to? There is the Distressed Gentlefolk's Aid Association. The DGAA is run by people who understand. They know that we want to stay in our own homes, surrounded by our possessions, and close to the friends of a lifetime. So, they help us with allowances and with clothing parcels. Only when we can no longer cope do the DGAA see if they can offer us a place in one of their 13 Residential and Nursing Homes. The more you can help the DGAA, the more the DGAA can do to help others. Donations are needed urgently. And please, do remember the DGAA when making our your Will.

DISTRESSED GENTLEFOLK'S AID ASSOCIATION

"Help them grow old with dignity"

Cabinet decision Drax order flies the critics

The cabinet's decision to ask the Central Electricity Generating Board to build a new power station with C. A. Parsons intensified the mood of uncertainty power plant suppliers. The decision, confirmed at the weekend, flies in the face of expert advice by the Central Review Staff, the National Price Board, and Mr Varley, all of whom had urged the Government to wait the contract to hinge on a report of turbine groups Parsons and Page 15

Alleged share price rigging investigation

Alleged price rigging of shares is being investigated by the Stock Exchange on a widening front. Dealings in the shares of at least eight companies are believed to be involved and the activities of some stockbrokers are being looked at. Page 15

£330,000 Corfu raid

The search continues for masked raiders who stole £330,000 from the Club Mediterranée in Corfu, killing an employee. The raiders made off with the Greek hijacked motor yacht. The Greek authorities notified the Albanian Government that the men might have taken refuge along its coast. Page 4

Motor cycle protest

About two thousand young motor cyclists and their pillion passengers rode, with throttles open and horns blaring, through central London in protest against the law that makes the wearing of crash helmets compulsory. After a rally, a group delivered a petition to 10 Downing Street. Page 2

Prisoners freed

Two women members of the extreme left-wing organization Pro-People, whose death sentence for their part in the first shooting of a policeman were commuted by General Franco to 30 years' imprisonment in September, 1975, were released from prison. Page 4

Israeli prices rise

Food prices in Israel will rise by 25 per cent today. Fuel prices will be similarly affected. This follows big cuts in subsidies announced by Mr Simcha Ehrlich, the Finance Minister, as part of a drive to reduce inflation and protect the Israeli pound. Page 4

Hospital 'lie-in'

Northampton General Hospital has allowed a woman to remain in the bed she occupied on Saturday demanding an operation. 2

Family agency

Mr Patrick Jenkin, the Conservative MP, has proposed the establishment of a national body to look after the interests of the family. 3

an for Ryder gift

Indian company has disclosed that it has donated the money for Lord Ryder's retirement gratuity on leaving his post as head of the National Enterprises. But the \$100,000 was a loan to a Canadian subsidiary, advanced by the company but refused to make of a similar sum. Page 2

ss Universe 1977

Commissioner, aged 24, of the black-top was the 1977 Miss Universe. In a contest in Santa Domingo, the black woman ever to have done Sandra Bell of Scotland and Aura Mojica (Columbia). Photograph, page 5

Inquiry sought after MI5 'blunders'

Two MPs called for an inquiry into Britain's counter-intelligence service, MI5, after an article in The Observer said that Sir Harold Wilson lost confidence in the service after "judicious blunders" in which Dr Owen, the present Foreign Secretary, and Mrs Hart, Minister for Overseas Development, were suspected of having links with Warsaw Pact countries. Page 2

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Violent eruption of Mount Etna

Catania, Sicily, July 17.—Mount Etna began erupting today with clouds of acid smoke and thick lava flows. Scientists said this was its most violent activity in 18 months. But the eruption was said to have posed no danger to inhabited areas. The lava started flowing from Etna's crater late yesterday, and experts at the Catania Institute of Volcanology said the flow appeared to be small so far. —UPI.

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HOME NEWS

Doctors face week of dilemmas over pay, trade unionism and future manpower requirements

From John Roper
Health Services Correspondent
Glasgow

Many dilemmas face Britain's doctors, meeting this week in Glasgow, over what action to take over pay, how far trade unionism should increase in the profession and whether the nation is producing too many doctors.

A thousand doctors are meeting at first in their separate groups: hospital consultants, general practitioners, junior doctors and community physicians. Later, the 600 delegates to the full representative meeting, their so-called doctors' parliament, will debate and decide policy.

Pay will be a crucial issue. The delegation that saw the Prime Minister last week is "unhappy and disappointed" that he could offer nothing to improve what the profession says are quite disproportionate sacrifices it has made under pay policy in the past two years.

Most members are frustrated and angry. Mr Callaghan and Mr Ennals, Secretary of State

for Social Services, have made it clear that there can be no relaxation of the 12-month rule, although the independent review body gave the profession only a £4-a-week increase.

Militants are likely to call for strong action: the BMA working party on sanctions recently reviewed its plans. But the dilemma is that even limited action affects patients and makes the National Health Service, beset by severe difficulties, more vulnerable.

Many doctors want the BMA to engage more in trade union activity. There are motions for debate this week on affiliation to the TUC and the establishment of a BMA "closed shop". It is unlikely that, at this time, the profession will go so far. But only a few years ago it would have been unthinkable that such matters could even be put forward for debate at the conference.

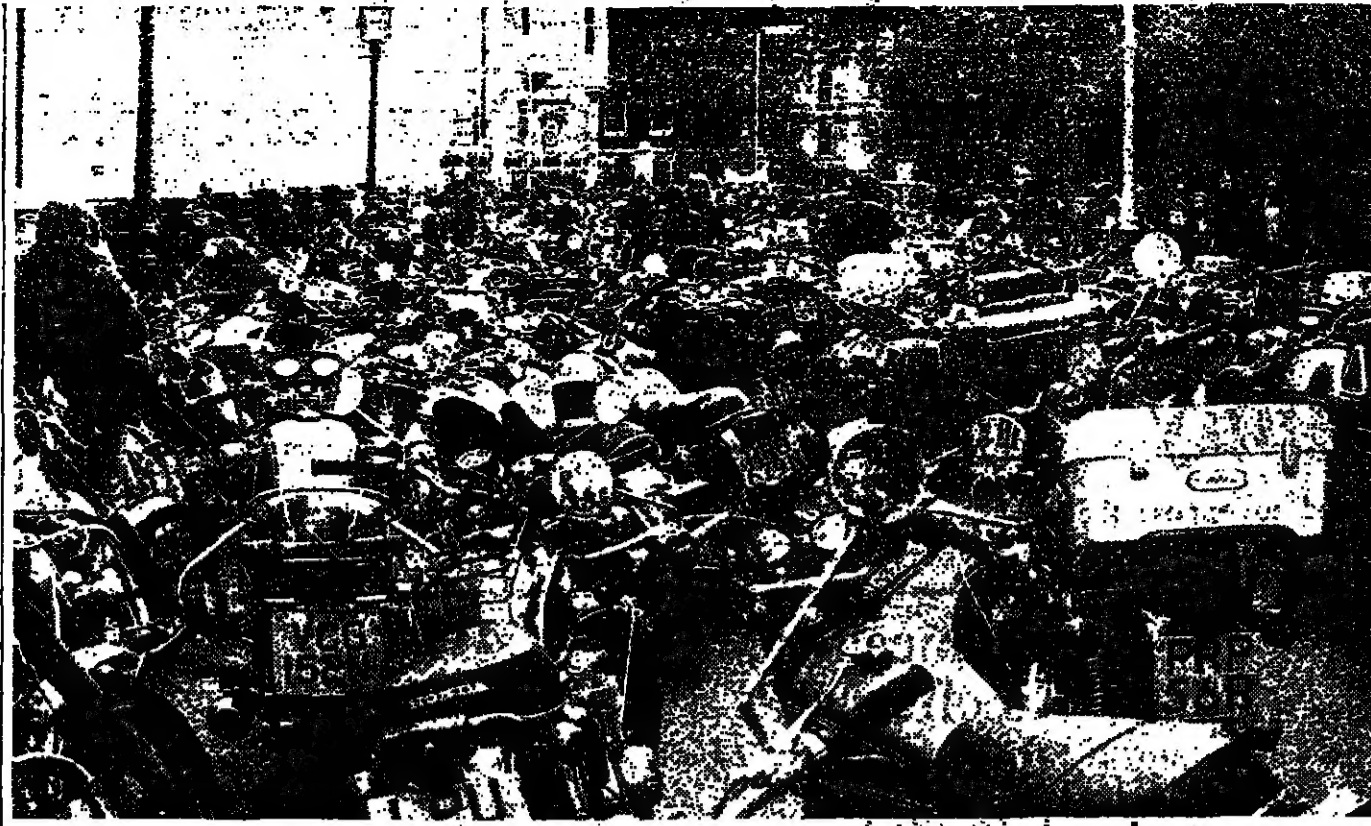
There is unease in the profession, particularly among junior doctors, that European and British medical schools are producing too many graduates and that there may soon be

more doctors than needed. Future medical manpower needs have always been difficult to estimate, and wrong guesses have been made in the past.

Sir Henry Yellowless, Chief Medical Officer, pointed out last week that he had been told frequently about the many British doctors emigrating, particularly within the European Economic Community, and that overseas doctors were less interested in coming here.

Among matters to be debated by the representative body is a motion saying that the profession should not be complacent that the Royal Commission on the NHS will resolve the service's difficulties. The Government, it says, should either give more money to the NHS or identify the parts of the service it cannot afford.

Because of the drop in the number of children immunised against infectious diseases, the meeting will be asked to regret the manner in which the Department of Health handled the controversy over whooping-cough vaccine.



Motor cyclists protest: Some of the two thousand motor cycles that were driven, with thrusters open and horns blaring, to Temple Place, off London's Embankment, yesterday, as young riders and pillion passengers mounted a shrill and cacophonous protest against compulsory crash helmets (our Motoring Correspondent writes). Speakers at the rally, organized by the Motor Cycle Action

Group argued that the crash helmet law was an infringement of personal liberty and said that the wearing of helmets had increased the number of neck and spinal injuries. Half-a-dozen machines were sent along the Embankment to Downing Street where a petition was handed in to the Prime Minister. They were followed on foot by others who had, reluctantly, left their machines behind at the request of the police. Despite the size of the protest, which surprised even the organizers, a change in the law seems unlikely. The Department of Transport maintains that helmets do save lives and avert serious injuries and that with accidents from two-wheel vehicles rising sharply, compulsion is more necessary than ever.

MPs call for inquiry after MI5 'blunders'

By a Staff Reporter

The Prime Minister is to be questioned in Parliament about alleged bungling by Britain's counter-intelligence service (MI5) over two government ministers. The move follows a report in *The Observer* yesterday that Sir Harold Wilson lost faith in the security service after two "ludicrous blunders".

Mr Gwynfor Iwan, Labour MP for Carmarthen, is tableing a Commons question urging Mr Callaghan to set up a select committee to inquire into the conduct of operations and activities of Britain's counter-intelligence service. Mr Bryan Gould, Labour MP for South-empson, Test, also wants an inquiry.

The article said that Sir Harold believed that a faction within the service was putting it about that there was a "communist cell" in the Cabinet involving himself and Lady Falkender.

He felt that the widespread campaign against him was at its height in the summer of 1975, when the head of MI5, according to Sir Harold, confirmed to him the existence within the service of a disaffected faction with extreme right-wing views.

The story of this feud was given by Sir Harold to two journalists who were investigating his allegations of South African involvement in British politics.

According to *The Observer* Sir Harold told the journalists of two extraordinary mistakes MI5 had made in suspecting that Dr Owen, now Secretary, and Mrs Hart, now Minister for Overseas Development, had connections with Warsaw Pact countries.

Dr Owen had been confused with Mr W. H. Owen, former Labour MP for Morpeth, in 1970, was acquired as the Central Criminal Court of passing state secrets to Czechoslovakia. Mrs Hart was confused with someone else.

Mr Roberts said yesterday that the cases of mistaken identity would have no bearing on this organization (MI5) consisted of bungling, blundered public school products straight out of the pages of P. G. Wodehouse.

A former government official during Sir Harold's tenure in office said yesterday that he had known of the mistake over Dr Owen, which MI5 acknowledged immediately when Sir Harold had said it was impossible.

But he was sceptical whether the undoubted distrust felt by MI5 towards all politicians, and particularly Labour politicians, had been extended to overt distrust.

"MI5 is not the sort of service to which socialist gravitate," he said. Equally, there was an automatic distrust among some Labour politicians and their advisers of the police and the security services generally. This attitude has become an obsession among some of those close to Sir Harold.

Another partial explanation offered by the sceptics is that the former Prime Minister never fully accepted that the head of the security service is responsible directly to the Home Secretary.

Decision on non-equality irks women

By Tim Jones
Labour Reporter

Another judge came under attack yesterday from angry women who accused him of delivering the biggest blow against equal pay for women since the implementation of the Equal Pay Act last year.

Mr Justice Kilner-Brown is criticised in a statement by Mrs Pat Turner, national official of the General and Municipal Workers' Union, Mrs Judith Hunt, national women's organizer of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers Technical, Administrative and Supervisory Section, and Miss Jean Cousins, women's rights officer of the National Council for Civil Liberties, for quashing an equal-pay claim by sales office clerk, Miss Fletcher, against her employer, Clay Cross Quarry Services.

Mr Justice Kilner-Brown had reversed an industrial tribunal's decision to bring Miss Fletcher's pay up to that of a man who was doing the same work but was paid £8 a week more. According to Mrs Turner, the judge ruled that the company was entitled to pay the man more simply because he had been in a previous job and would not work for less.

Mrs Turner said: "Employers will now be thanking the appeal tribunal for providing them with the means to reintegrate jobs and still pay men more. The only excuse they need is that the men were previously higher earners: which almost always is the case."

"What I am looking for is a real improvement in the standards and advancement for our people, not easy slogans. We cannot do unless we have the support and understanding of the trade union movement. That is why, during this last week, we have been careful to preserve that link. I know this is the foundation of our party."

Nothing was going to shake those bonds and those foundations. "But, equally, there is a responsibility to tell the truth even to some of our friends in the trade union movement."

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Mr Callaghan says he will resist pits free-for-all

By Our Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister told miners at the Durham gala on Saturday that he would stand firm against excessive wage demands and would refuse to return to printing "confetti money".

He defended the Government's agreement with union leaders for an orderly return to collective bargaining and maintenance of the 12-month rule between settlements.

Some voices were heard backing the demand from Mr Arthur Scargill, the Yorkshire miners' leader, for £135 a week in November. Mr Callaghan shouted "Yes" and next year it will be £200 a week, and the year after £300 a week. Is the miner worth it? Certainly he is, provided he is paid in real money, and that is what we have got to do. Therefore, let no one think I can be carried away on this particular issue.

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underground for a fixed period will be able to retire at 62. The appointment of Mr Joseph Gormley, president of the National Union of Mineworkers, as a part-time director of Vancouver Wharves, Vancouver, has offended some members of the union's executive. His appointment is the more controversial because the company's parent group, Williams

Better race climate is noticed

By a Staff Reporter

Race relations over the past 10 years have gradually improved, Mr David Lane, chairman of the Commission for Racial Equality, said yesterday.

But he told a meeting in London that racial harmony was fragile. Much still needed to be done to combat discrimination, particularly in housing and employment. Ethnic minorities were worried by attacks from white extremists and Mr Lane called for a concerted effort from the community to counter the violence.

He hoped that as large-scale immigration to Britain was nearly at an end there would be less preoccupation with immigration and a greater emphasis on positive work for race relations and more acknowledgment of the contribution immigrants and, increasingly, immigrant children were making.

Mr M. Y. Chishri, chairman of the Kashmiri Liberation Board, complained of lack of police protection in attacks on Asian people by white youths and of misleading coverage of racial matters by press and television.

He asked the Government not to deprive Asian families of tax relief on children living overseas.

Company denies Ryder payment was gift

By Peter Hill
Industrial Correspondent

Lord Ryder's "post-retirement gratuity" of £49,500 on leaving the chairmanship of Reed International to become head of the National Enterprise Board was provided by a Canadian company which has links with Reed in Canada.

That was disclosed in *The Sunday Times* yesterday after the company, Canadian Forest Products, had issued a statement which confirmed the involvement of a former Reed executive in Canada. The statement made clear that Canadian Forest did not consider the payment, which was repaid by Lord Ryder last month, as a gift.

Issued after consultations with Reed International in London, Canadian Forest's statement said that at a meeting in December, 1974, Mr R. W. Billingham, then president of Reed Paper Ltd (the Canadian subsidiary of Reed International) had asked CFP to make a \$100,000 retirement gift to Lord Ryder. CFP declined.

Then, according to CFP, Mr Billingham asked if the company could assist Reed by making the payment to Lord Ryder on the understanding that CFP would be reimbursed by Reed Paper Ltd.

CFP said that although the request was unusual it had been willing to help its joint venture partner. It was reported as saying he had taken the money in good faith. It seemed a "logical" reward for 11 and a half years' service with a company as large and prosperous as CFP, for which he had been an unpaid, non-executive director.

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Nalco move on grades at universities

By Our Labour Reporter

The National and Local Government Officers' Association (Nalco) has asked the TUC to reopen direct discussions with the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals to try to establish a national system of salary grading appeals for non-teaching staff.

The union said yesterday that if the move fails it will ask the TUC to refer the issue to the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas).

According to Nalco, the unions have been trying for 18 months to persuade the universities to work within a national procedural agreement for 44,000 manual workers and 16,000 white-collar staff.

Nalco says the employers are refusing to establish the part of the agreement that relates to national appeals. The unions want a national panel to hear individual appeals against grading decisions after local appeals procedures have been exhausted.

Mr Alex Thompson, Nalco's national officer for universities, said: "The employers keep talking about economy, but their refusal to establish proper procedures is a recipe for anarchy."

A well-established national appeals system acts as a vital safety valve for individuals who feel they have a legitimate grievance over their grading and who can take the matter no further at local level."

He said they wanted sound industrial relations in the universities as in other areas of the public and private sectors.

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Industrial Correspondent

Lord Ryder's "post-retirement gratuity" of £49,500 on leaving the chairmanship of Reed International to become head of the National Enterprise Board was provided by a Canadian company which has links with Reed in Canada.

That was disclosed in *The Sunday Times* yesterday after the company, Canadian Forest Products, had issued a statement which confirmed the involvement of a former Reed executive in Canada. The statement made clear that Canadian Forest did not consider the payment, which was repaid by Lord Ryder last month, as a gift.

Issued after consultations with Reed International in London, Canadian Forest's statement said that at a meeting in December, 1974, Mr R. W. Billingham, then president of Reed Paper Ltd (the Canadian subsidiary of Reed International) had asked CFP to make a \$100,000 retirement gift to Lord Ryder. CFP declined.

Then, according to CFP, Mr Billingham asked if the company could assist Reed by making the payment to Lord Ryder on the understanding that CFP would be reimbursed by Reed Paper Ltd.

CFP said that although the request was unusual it had been willing to help its joint venture partner. It was reported as saying he had taken the money in good faith. It seemed a "logical" reward for 11 and a half years' service with a company as large and prosperous as CFP, for which he had been an unpaid, non-executive director.

Mr Scargill to pursue £135 for miners as positive claim

By Our Labour Reporter.

The determination of the Yorkshire miners to claim £135 a week for colliery workers from November will make it increasingly difficult for the TUC economic committee, which meets tomorrow, to urge its members to moderate pay claims.

Mr Arthur Scargill, secretary of the Yorkshire area of the

National Union of Mineworkers, told the Durham miners' gala on Saturday that he would be arguing for £135 a week "not as an objective, not in the form of seeking, but as a positive claim."

At the gala the Prime Minister announced that from August a new pay award scheme for miners would take effect. Men who have served

underground for a fixed period will be able to retire at 62. The appointment of Mr Joseph Gormley, president of the National Union of Mineworkers, as a part-time director of Vancouver Wharves, Vancouver, has offended some members of the union's executive. His appointment is the more controversial because the company's parent group, Williams

Hudson, has big interests in oil. Mr Gormley, whose union salary is £7,500, became a member of the National Research Development Corporation earlier this year at a salary of £1,000 a year.

Mr Michael McGahey, Scottish president of the NUM, said last night: "I am against trade union leaders taking up extra jobs outside their industry."

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Mr Michael McGahey, Scottish president of the NUM, said last night: "I am against trade union leaders taking up extra jobs outside their industry."

Where's the best of British pottery?

Some of the most famous names in ceramics—Wedgwood, William Adams, Coalport, Crown Staffordshire and Mason's Ironstone, are showing the best of their work at Selfridges from 18th until 30th July.

You'll find their displays in our Shakespeare's Country Exhibition on the fourth floor.

Many of the pieces are collector's items, but there's also a wide choice of giftware and figures. All the items are for sale.

It's also very much a working exhibition, too, so you can watch the artists and potters at work, and even have a try for yourself. They'll all be happy to answer any questions you might have.

Tomorrow the Pearly Kings and Queens will be there with a coster's barrow selling their special Jubilee Mugs.

Why not come up to Selfridges fourth floor? We know what's beautiful, and we'd like you to see it.

The very best of British Pottery. 18th-30th July Shakespeare's Country.

Selfridges naturally... Oxford Street, London W.1 01-629 1234

Hospital to discuss protest lie-in by woman patient

Discussions are to take place this morning at Northampton General Hospital about Mrs Rita Ward, who climbed into an empty bed on Saturday and refused to leave until operated on for gallstones.

The hospital refused to confirm last night whether she had been told she would be operated on. A spokesman said: "Mrs Ward in the meantime is being allowed to stay here. But there are 400 people waiting for operations by the surgeon who handles cases such as hers."

Mrs Ward said: "I am staying put until they operate. I cannot stand the pain any longer. The maddening thing is that I could have the operation done tomorrow privately for £500."

The hospital said: "These people coming into hospital this week for operations will be treated as normal. Mrs Ward's presence will not mean any operations being put back."

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Runaway editor 'cannot risk family'

Continued from page 1

together at the time and the £5 a week pin money she got was an enormous help to our precarious finances."

The letter continued: "This threat was followed up by general hints of how 'awkward and difficult life can become'. It was, however, the threat which they left till the end which persuaded me to smash everything I have worked for, leave my home and my possessions and flee to the east."

"My wife, of course, has had to break off from university with just one year to go of her four-year course. As far as I understood it, this threat would only be carried out if I mentioned the conversation that had taken place."

"It was couched in two simple sentences: 'You have a delightful little girl, Mr Jones. The roads become very busy at this time of the year.'"

The letter continued: "As you know, Arthur, I have a daughter who is nearly three."

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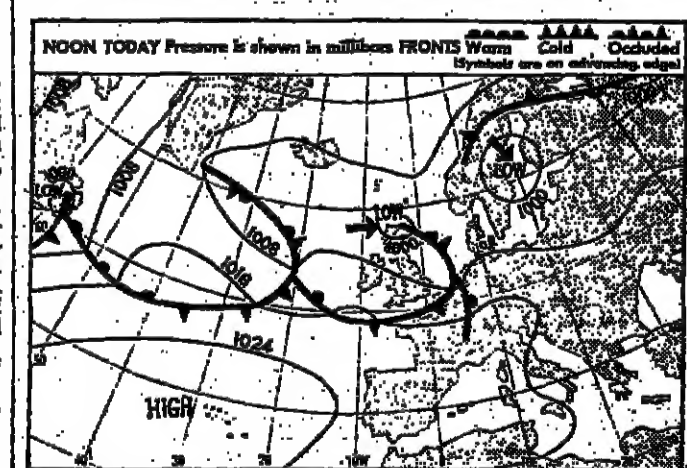
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Weather forecast and recordings



Today
Sun rises: 5.4 am
Moon rises: 7.34 am
First frost: 9.38 pm
Lighting up: 9.38 pm
High water: London Bridge, 3.55 am, 6.30 am (22.7h); 4.11 pm, 7.00 am (23.0h); 3.21 am, 6.21 am (24.0h); 3.31 am, 6.31 am (25.0h); 3.41 am, 6.41 am (26.0h); 3.51 am, 6.51 am (27.0h); 4.01 am, 7.01 am (28.0h); 4.11 am, 7.11 am (29.0h); 4.21 am, 7.21 am (30.0h); 4.31 am, 7.31 am (31.0h); 4.41 am, 7.41 am (32.0h); 4.51 am, 7.51 am (33.0h); 5.01 am, 8.01 am (34.0h); 5.11 am, 8.11 am (35.0h); 5.21 am, 8.21 am (36.0h); 5.31 am, 8.31 am (37.0h); 5.41 am, 8.41 am (38.0h); 5.51 am, 8.51 am (39.0h); 6.01 am, 9.01 am (40.0h); 6.11 am, 9.11 am (41.0h); 6.21 am, 9.21 am (42.0h); 6.31 am, 9.31 am (43.0h); 6.41 am, 9.41 am (44.0h); 6.51 am, 9.51 am (45.0h); 7.01 am, 10.01 am (46.0h); 7.11 am, 10.11 am (47.0h); 7.21 am, 10.21 am (48.0h); 7.31 am, 10.31 am (49.0h); 7.41 am, 10.41 am (50.0h); 7.51 am, 10.51 am (51.0h); 8.01 am, 11.01 am (52.0h); 8.11 am, 11.11 am (53.0h); 8.21 am, 11.21 am (54.0h); 8.31 am, 11.31 am (55.0h); 8.41 am, 11.41 am (56.0h); 8.51 am, 11.51 am (57.0h); 9.01 am, 12.01 pm (58.0h); 9.11 am, 12.11 pm (59.0h); 9.21 am, 12.21 pm (60.0h); 9.31 am, 12.31 pm (61.0h); 9.41 am, 12.41 pm (62.0h); 9.51 am, 12.51 pm (63.0h); 10.01 am, 1.01 pm (64.0h); 10.11 am, 1.11 pm (65.0h); 10.21 am, 1.21 pm (66.0h); 10.31 am, 1.31 pm (67.0h); 10.41 am, 1.41 pm (68.0h); 10.51 am, 1.51 pm (69.0h); 11.01 am, 2.01 pm (70.0h); 11.11 am, 2.11 pm (71.0h); 11.21 am, 2.21 pm (72.0h); 11.31 am, 2.31 pm (73.0h); 11.41 am, 2.41 pm (74.0h); 11.51 am, 2.51 pm (75.0h); 12.01 pm, 3.01 pm (76.0h); 12.11 pm, 3.11 pm (77.0h); 12.21 pm, 3.21 pm (78.0h); 12.31 pm, 3.31 pm (79.0h); 12.41 pm, 3.41 pm (80.0h); 12.51 pm, 3.51 pm (81.0h); 1.01 pm, 4.01 pm (82.0h); 1.11 pm, 4.11 pm (83.0h); 1.21 pm, 4.21 pm (84.0h); 1.31 pm, 4.31 pm (85.0h); 1.41 pm, 4.41 pm (86.0h); 1.51 pm, 4.51 pm (87.0h); 2.01 pm, 5.01 pm (88.0h); 2.11 pm, 5.11 pm (89.0h); 2.21 pm, 5.21 pm (90.0h); 2.31 pm, 5.31 pm (91.0h); 2.41 pm, 5.41 pm (92.0h); 2.51 pm, 5.51 pm (93.0h); 3.01 pm, 6.01 pm (94.0h); 3.11 pm, 6.11 pm (95.0h); 3.21 pm, 6.21 pm (96.0h); 3.31 pm, 6.31 pm (97.0h); 3.41 pm, 6.41 pm (98.0h); 3.51 pm, 6.51 pm (99.0h);

MPs HOME NEWS inquiry wants after Agency 'blunder' promote the family

By a Staff Writer
The Prime Minister's Office has been questioned by a group of MPs over the alleged blunder of the Family Policy Unit (FPU) in promoting the family. The FPU, set up last year, was intended to coordinate government policy on family issues. However, it has been accused of promoting a narrow view of the family, one based on the traditional nuclear family. The MPs, led by Mr. Patrick Jenkin, are demanding an inquiry into the FPU's actions. They argue that the FPU has been too close to the Conservative Party and has not adequately represented the views of other parts of the community. The Prime Minister's Office has defended the FPU, saying that it has been working hard to coordinate government policy on family issues. It says that the FPU has been successful in bringing together various government departments and in promoting a range of family-friendly policies. However, the MPs are not convinced. They say that the FPU has been too much of a mouthpiece for the Conservative Party and that it has not been able to represent the interests of all families. They are calling for an independent inquiry into the FPU's actions. The Prime Minister's Office has agreed to consider the MPs' demands. It says that it will be looking at the FPU's work and at the concerns of the MPs. It will be reporting back to the Prime Minister in the near future.

Rescuing devolution 1: Separate Bills are expected for Scotland and Wales Government will seek settlement with Liberal backing

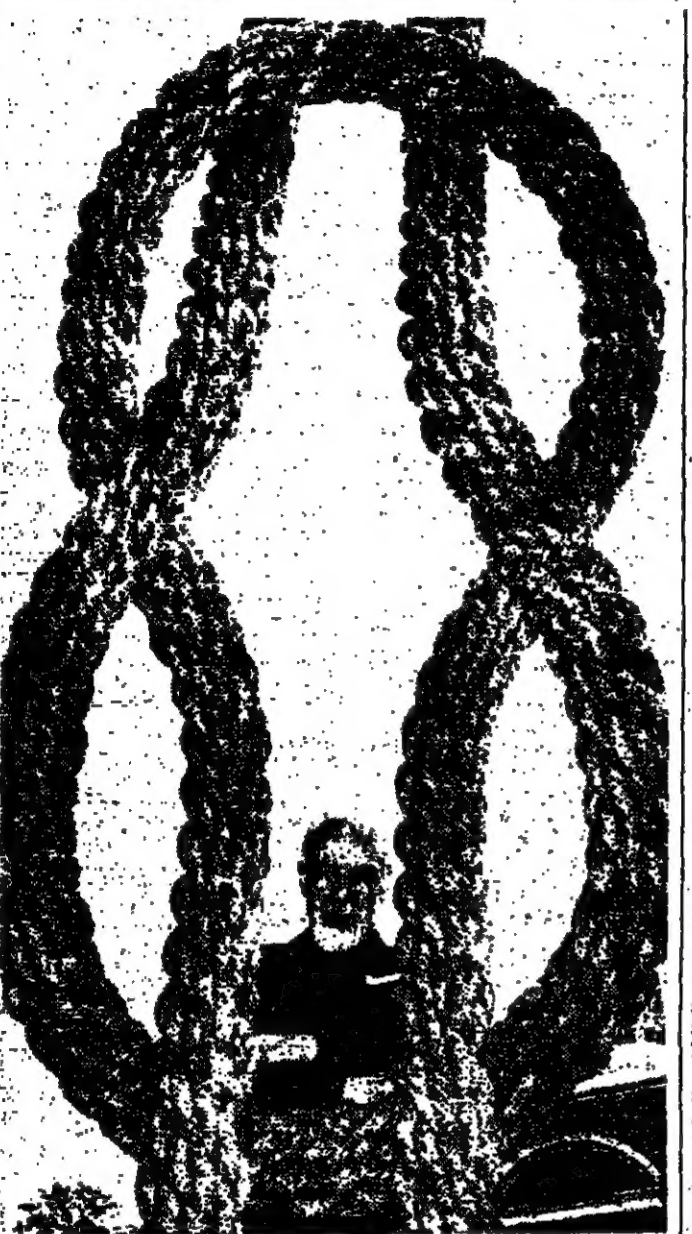
By Peter Hennessy
The devolution committee of the Cabinet meets this week, with the Prime Minister in the chair, to salvage a policy from the ruins of the Scotland and Wales Bill that was defeated in the Commons in February. The Government failed to win a guillotine motion curtailing debate on the issue. Before parliamentary draftsmen can buckle down during the summer recess to turning political intentions into statutory prose, Mr. Callaghan and his colleagues face the task of fashioning a new settlement which will satisfy the Liberals, have a chance of finding a majority in the Commons and, most important of all in the long term, so far enough in its provisions to choose what in the nineteenth century would have been called the Scottish and Welsh questions for a generation or more. Much time and effort have been expended during the past three months by ministers responsible for devolution, the Whitehall departments concerned and the Liberal Party in the search for an improved political and economic mix. The options for presentation to the Cabinet committee will reflect the negotiations conducted by Mr. John Smith, Minister of State at the Privy Council Office, with Mr. Russell Johnston, MP for Inverness and Liberal spokesman on devolution, and Whitehall's appraisals of the cost and practicability of any proposed new arrangements. The original discussions concentrated on a document which the Liberals published and submitted to the Government. The committee's first step will probably be to approve the drafting of separate Bills for Scotland and Wales in recognition of the case put forward by Mr. Steel, leader of the Liberal Party. He argued last month in a speech at Aviemore that a legislative devolution to Scotland and executive devolution to Wales represented "wholly different systems" and that the confusion involved in jumping from one type to the other had bedevilled the debate on Scotland and Wales. The Bill which took them both together, earlier in the session, Ministers should dispose fairly swiftly of a number of other minor concessions to Liberal sentiment, reducing still further, for example, the "Governor-General" or "coached hat" powers that would be left to a Secretary of State for Scotland in determining the affairs of a Scottish assembly.

The Cabinet committee will reserve its best efforts for the heart of the re-fashioned devolution proposals when the options available for separate revenue-raising powers for Scotland and the types of judicial mechanisms which might be used to resolve disputes over powers between the Edinburgh assembly and the Westminster Parliament. The ministerial meeting this week is the first stage in a revised timetable for devolution. When the Cabinet's future legislative committee meets before the summer recess to consider the Queen's Speech for next session, it will probably allow for separate Scotland and Wales Bills to be introduced in the Commons in late October or early November. The Government will probably try for a guillotine motion after the second reading before the Commons rises for Christmas. The Lord President and the Chief Whip will probably have the difficulty of three constitutional Bills, two on devolution and one dealing with direct elections to the European Parliament, to be taken in committee stage on the floor of the House in the spring. But, if all goes according to plan, the devolution Bills would receive the Royal Assent in July next year, with referendums in Scotland and Wales later in the summer and the first assembly elections in April 1979. It is an unspoken comment on the predominance of the Scottish dimension in devolution that Wales has featured very little in the Government's negotiations with the Liberals. That the principle will be almost certainly be treated in a separate Bill diminishes still further the likelihood of an assembly in Wales by 1979 as the cause of Welsh devolution is one for which very few MPs

are prepared to go to the last ditch. The Scottish question is a far weightier matter but the parliamentary arithmetic surrounding the passage of a Scotland Bill remains precarious. Focusing on a guillotine motion in late November or early December, ministers place their hopes on the Prime Minister's "we govern or we go" approach to sway at least 10 of the 43 Labour MPs who either voted against the Government or abstained in February. Given the support of all 11 Liberal MPs (only two were with the Government in February), the nationalists and some of the Ulster Unionist ministers are hoping that the Scotland Bill, at least, will succeed. But it remains far from certain, with the present composition of the Commons, whether a majority can be found for any form of devolution. The discussion on the Government's statement next week will provide a first indication of the prospects. Tomorrow: Funding a Scottish assembly.

New call to coordinate services for under 5s

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent
A new appeal to local authorities to coordinate all services for children under five is to be made this autumn in a new government circular. A draft version, now being considered at the Department of Health and Social Security, emphasizes that services for young children and their families cannot operate in isolation and that the best use must be made of scarce resources. Local authorities were asked in March, 1976, to take steps to improve co-ordination between education, health and social services for the under-fives, as well as with voluntary and community groups. Now they are to be asked to make sure that local co-ordinating machinery is set up to achieve that purpose. The tone of the draft circular indicates that while considerable progress has been made in some areas, in others what was described in 1976 as the "first and minimum step" has not yet been taken. That was to draw up a list of services and facilities together with any plans to supplement or develop them. The reluctance by some authorities to act on the last circular may have been due to public expenditure cuts have put a firm brake on development of pre-school facilities, but also because of the difficulties of persuading professional staff to co-operate. They can learn from their colleagues in other areas. The draft circular emphasizes that everyone working with under-fives has much to gain from the expertise and experience of each other and quotes examples of where that has happened to good effect. For example, peripatetic teachers are being employed in some areas to improve the educational content of playgroups, which have traditionally been centred on providing play rather than learning facilities. The draft circular also emphasizes the need for local authorities to give support and advice services to child-minders and encourages the development of links between child-minders, nursery schools and classes and voluntary groups. Such links can help to break down the isolation of many child-minders and broaden the experience of children. In other areas day centres planned to meet both the social and educational needs of under-fives have been set up. One provides full day care but is staffed by qualified teachers, and another combines a nursery class, a day-care nursery, a mother and child club and a baby clinic. The draft circular encourages both the improvement of education in day nurseries, which have traditionally been seen as providing social care, and the employment of more social workers in day nurseries to cope with the wider difficulties faced by the children's family. The latter is seen as particularly important when most places in day nurseries are going to socially disadvantaged children, and will continue to do so while public expenditure constraints persist. The circular points out that nursery nurses have excellent training in the normal development of children, but that does not prepare them well for working with parents and children with multiple difficulties. In the same way, while all children can benefit from nursery education many of those now in day nurseries and other publicly provided day-care in day nurseries need to be culturally and financially deprived homes. The draft circular makes clear that during the next few years any resources that can be provided by the Government will continue to be concentrated on areas of social or educational disadvantage and on meeting the needs of children who are socially, mentally or physically handicapped. The draft circular also emphasizes the need for local authorities to give support and advice services to child-minders and encourages the development of links between child-minders, nursery schools and classes and voluntary groups. Such links can help to break down the isolation of many child-minders and broaden the experience of children.



Landscape art: Mr. Thomas Meddings, a Sussex architect, with part of his winning entry, "A Brooding Knight Garden", in the Art into Landscape exhibition at the Serpentine Gallery, London, open until August 14. The show is for schemes to enliven public space and the winning entry's site is at 125 Rotherhithe Street, London.

Builders seek 'positive' land policy

By Our Planning Reporter
Stability in the housing market can be achieved only by a more positive attitude to the designation of land for housing, building and by the easing of controls on development. That is the broad conclusion of a report published today by the House Builders Federation. The report, by a federation working party, observes that one of the main difficulties facing the industry in the past 25 years has been a shortage of suitable land in the right place at the right time. That difficulty has been largely created by the inability of the planning system to respond to changes in market demand. It argues that there is "an intolerable lag between housing policies and policies for land". Governments of both the main political parties have made housing a main priority, but have failed to create realistic policies for land. The policy of exhortation employed by the Conservative government culminated in the great land price boom of 1972-73, in which the housebuilding industry and the house purchaser suffered equally the report says. The present Government's Community Land Act is "totally misdirected", as it gives responsibility for land allocation, acquisition and disposal to the selfsame planning authorities who have failed to perform the task satisfactorily in the past. In the working party's view, planning authorities should be given a clear duty to produce land policy statements, allocating a five-year supply of land which is clearly available for housebuilding. Before doing so, they should be required to consult all interested parties, including builders and a statutory undertakers, to ensure that suitable land is allocated. Such statements, monitored by the Government and utilizing the skills and expertise of the building industry, would obviate the need for intervention by public bodies. The market would be stabilized, avoiding "boom and bust" cycles, the incentive for speculation would be removed, and penal systems of taxation would be unnecessary. Land for Housing (The House Builders Federation, 52 New Cavendish Street, London W1M 5AD).

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Allotments 'could cut millions off import bill'

Britain's gardeners could cut the nation's £4,000m. bill for food imports by millions of pounds every year if local authorities would provide the allotments demanded. That was stated yesterday by gardening and conservation groups who alleged that councils were holding on to thousands of acres which could be used. According to research by Friends of the Earth there are 20,000 acres of derelict land in London alone, which could provide 320,000 allotments. It is argued that municipal authorities have hundreds of sites earmarked for development but have failed to do so because of lack of money. Some projects have been put back for 10 years or more and gardeners say that the land could be used for allotments until needed. In the past six years the waiting list for allotments has risen from 12,000 to 117,000. In the same period the number of allotments has fallen by 100,000 to about 600,000. Because of inflation, the demand has been particularly high in the past 16 months. The waiting list has risen by more than three-fifths from 70,000. The National Society of Leisure Gardeners said Britain could "slash the import bill for fruit and vegetables by about £100m a year. Each allotment owner could save himself and the import bill about £130 a year. If all the people on the waiting list could be found an allotment, the country could save £10m a year. Mr Thomas Hume, allotment consultant of the London Association of Recreational Gar-

deners, which has 16,000 names on its waiting list, said: "People don't want allotments just to grow cheap vegetables. There is a strong desire to get back to nature." Government figures show there are more than 100,000 allotments in England and Wales, mostly land abandoned by British Rail and the Armed Services. But nearly 150,000 acres a year is being taken out of food production. Half for forestry and half for other uses. Mr Lawrence Hills, director of the Henry Doubleday Research Association, which aims to promote and improve horticulture, said: "In 20 years' time food will be of more importance than energy or amenities and we cannot allow more-

Licenses call for ban on union

By Tim Jones, Labour Reporter
The National Association of Licensed House Managers which has 14,000 members, has submitted a motion to the Trades Union Congress in September demanding the suspension of the Transport and General Workers' Union. Mr Harry Shindler, national secretary, said yesterday his union had taken the action because the transport men had refused to obey a TUC ruling which instructed them to recognize the NALHM card held by the manager of the Fox and Goose, Birmingham, and to deliver supplies normally. The dispute has been going on for more than a year. The Association of Metropolitan Authorities said it was difficult for local councils to establish statutory allotments because of the complicated procedure. But people could approach their local authority if they knew of a plot that could be turned into temporary allotments.

Theatre to close

The University Theatre, Newcastle upon Tyne, which has been used for independent productions since the closure of the Tyneside Theatre Company in January, is to close at the end of the month because of a decision by the Arts Council and Northern Arts to withdraw financial support.

Won't you be my 'Postal Parent'

for £4.33 a month?

Advertisements for the "Postal Parent" scheme, featuring photos of children and text describing the program. The scheme allows parents to send their children to school with a "Postal Parent" who provides a well-balanced diet, clothing, and a practical training. The program is run by the YMCA, the Catholic Relief Service, and the Church Missionary Society. Supporters include Harry Secombe, John Timpon, Yehudi Menuhin, Dora Bryan, and Norman St John Stevens.

Chrysler unveils small car competitor

Peter Waymark, Chrysler today releases the first details of its new three-door family car, the Sunbeam. Production starts in October at the Lincoln plant in Lincolnshire. The Sunbeam will compete in the small car market, which is dominated by the Volkswagen Golf and the Ford Fiesta. The Sunbeam is a three-door hatchback, with a 1.3-litre engine and a top speed of 110 mph. It is priced at £4,499, which is competitive with the other cars in the market. Chrysler is confident that the Sunbeam will be a success. It says that the car has been designed to meet the needs of the British market and that it will be a "real family car". The Sunbeam is expected to be a major competitor for the Volkswagen Golf and the Ford Fiesta. It will be available in a range of colors and with optional equipment. Chrysler is also planning to launch a four-door version of the Sunbeam in the near future. The company says that it is committed to the British market and that it will continue to invest in the country. The Sunbeam is a testament to Chrysler's commitment to the UK and to its customers.

Answers in Parliament

A periodic digest of information given in parliamentary written replies with the sources and dates on which they appeared in Hansard.
Treasury, July 6
Land sales: In the transactions notified to the Inland Revenue in the year ended September 30, 1976, just under 2 per cent of agricultural land in England and Wales changed hands. Some 76 per cent of the land was bought by individuals, usually farmers, 20 per cent by property and other companies, financial institutions and public authorities, and 3 per cent by "others", which would include foreign governments.
Agriculture, July 11
Tonnage: The amount of VAT contributed by the wine industry in the United Kingdom in 1976, is thought to be in the region of £100m, representing 2.5 per cent of the total VAT revenue.
Erchequer, July 11
Wine, beer and spirits: Since February 1974, the excise duties on table wine, fortified wines, beers and spirits have increased as follows: table wine, 33%; fortified wine, 15.18 per cent; alcohol, 15.4%; fortified wine (18.22 per cent alcohol), 19.9%; beer, 141%; spirits, 75%.

Voters on each regional list for Europe

The proposed number of electors per member of the European Parliament in Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland and each of the regions of England, on the basis of the regional list proposal recently published by the Government, is by region followed by the proposed number of electors per member (000s): Scotland, 473; Wales, 514; Northern Ireland, 244; London, 425; Yorkshire, 513; North-west England, 533; West Midlands, 535; East Midlands, 550; East Anglia, 438; South-west England, 526; South-east England, 513; Greater London, 523.
Home Office, July 6
Employed persons: The number of people in full-time employment in the United Kingdom in December 1976 was: 1976, 1975, 1974, 1973, 1972, 1971, 1970, 1969, 1968, 1967, 1966, 1965, 1964, 1963, 1962, 1961, 1960, 1959, 1958, 1957, 1956, 1955, 1954, 1953, 1952, 1951, 1950, 1949, 1948, 1947, 1946, 1945, 1944, 1943, 1942, 1941, 1940, 1939, 1938, 1937, 1936, 1935, 1934, 1933, 1932, 1931, 1930, 1929, 1928, 1927, 1926, 1925, 1924, 1923, 1922, 1921, 1920, 1919, 1918, 1917, 1916, 1915, 1914, 1913, 1912, 1911, 1910, 1909, 1908, 1907, 1906, 1905, 1904, 1903, 1902, 1901, 1900, 1899, 1898, 1897, 1896, 1895, 1894, 1893, 1892, 1891, 1890, 1889, 1888, 1887, 1886, 1885, 1884, 1883, 1882, 1881, 1880, 1879, 1878, 1877, 1876, 1875, 1874, 1873, 1872, 1871, 1870, 1869, 1868, 1867, 1866, 1865, 1864, 1863, 1862, 1861, 1860, 1859, 1858, 1857, 1856, 1855, 1854, 1853, 1852, 1851, 1850, 1849, 1848, 1847, 1846, 1845, 1844, 1843, 1842, 1841, 1840, 1839, 1838, 1837, 1836, 1835, 1834, 1833, 1832, 1831, 1830, 1829, 1828, 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796, 795, 794, 793, 792, 791, 790, 789, 788, 787, 786, 785, 784, 783, 782, 781, 780, 779, 778, 777, 776, 775, 774, 773, 772, 771, 770,

WEST EUROPE

Women jailed for 30 years are freed from Spanish prison

From William Chislett
Madrid, July 17

The Spanish authorities have released 20 women members of the extreme left-wing organization Frap, whose death sentences for their part in the fatal shooting of a policeman were commuted by General Franco to 30 years imprisonment.

Señora Maria Jesus Dasca and Señora Concepción Tristán were released from Alcalá de Henares women's prison outside Madrid yesterday. Two of their colleagues sentenced in the same court martial were shot by firing squad on September 27, 1975 and a third, whose sentence was also commuted to life imprisonment, is expected to be released soon. The executions raised a storm of protest round the world.

Their release confirms that the Government intends to continue the gradual release of those remaining prisoners convicted of politically motivated crimes of violence. Señor José Luis Pons Llobet, sentenced to 30 years imprisonment for his part in a bank raid, has also been released. His companion, Salvador Puig Antich, an

anarchist, was garroted in March, 1974, for his part in the raid.

The Government has concentrated so far on releasing members of the Basque separatist organization ETA. Nearly all were freed under pressure from the ETA, which threatened a campaign of violence, before the June 15 general election. The Government is now expected to release prisoners belonging to other organizations.

All three who have been released were freed under a pardon and not an amnesty. Communists and Socialists in the Cortes (Parliament) plan a debate on a total amnesty, the granting of which would enable the very few people remaining in jail for political reasons, to return to Spain.

The Government of the Democratic Centre Union may decide to solve the problem of the Opposition and so prevent the Opposition from trying to gain a political advantage by using a powerful slogan for the Opposition. This Wednesday's Cabinet meeting will probably study the matter.

Land reform test for Lisbon Socialists

From Our Correspondent
Lisbon, July 17

Portugal's Socialist Government will face its biggest test so far of its power to govern tomorrow when the Land Reform Bill comes up for discussion in the Assembly.

The Bill is being contested on all sides. The Communist Party is organizing an all-out campaign to defeat it and the Social Democrats and Christian Democrats are demanding important changes in its text, although in principle they are in favour of it.

During the weekend President Eanes received both Dr Mario Soares, the Prime Minister, and Senator Antonio Barreto, the Minister of Agriculture, to discuss the forthcoming debate.

At the same time, meetings are being held by all parliamentary parties. The opposition parties are attacking the Government as insufficient.

In the coastal town of Aveiro, north of Lisbon, the

leader of the Christian Democrats, Dr Freitas do Amaral, told a party rally: "Either the Government must govern better, or it must fall".

His party's parliamentary committee has it is known that the Christian Democrats may vote against the Land Reform Bill.

It is important for the Soares Government to obtain a clear majority in favour of the law. The Government has suffered three recent parliamentary defeats on other laws.

Lisbon, July 17.—The Socialist Government sought week-end meetings with the centrist Social Democrats in an effort to obtain their support for the Bill.

The 57 articles of the Bill call for the expropriation of another 500,000 hectares (1,250,000 acres) in the southern half of Portugal affected by land reform, but extend the acreage private farmers will be able to retain.—UPI.

Communists a key topic in Andreotti Paris talks

From Peter Nichols
Rome, July 17

Signor Andreotti, the Prime Minister, leaves for Paris tomorrow with his Government strengthened by the agreement with the Communists on the Administration's programme. Like so much that is historic in Italy, the agreement has been accepted so calmly that for the moment not even a reshuffle is envisaged.

The agreement will be one of the principal subjects of Signor Andreotti's visit to Paris. President Giscard d'Estaing was last in Italy on a bilateral visit in December, and in the meantime the left in France has been advancing.

The Paris discussions take place, moreover, a week before Signor Andreotti is to leave for an important visit to Washington, where Italy's present affairs are complicating still further American doubts about Europe.

As an answer to the French left's accusations of political repression in Italy, Signor Andreotti travels to Paris with the Italian Ministry of the Interior having issued figures on those held in prison on charges arising out of alleged left-wing and right-wing crimes.

According to these figures, 128 people held in Italian prisons are known to belong to or say they belong to the "Red Brigades", the most effective of the terrorist groups claiming to be left-wing. Another 14 are sought by police. Another 123 are said to belong to the "Armed Proletarian Nuclei" with 14 fugitives. Just as a third group on the extreme left called "Front Line" has 12 alleged members in prison and three fugitives.

On the extreme right, prisoners allegedly belonging to neo-fascist groups number 343, with 65 fugitives.

The Government is understood to be preparing a special prison for terrorists on the island of Favignana off the Sicilian coast near Trapani. Municipal authorities on the island have already protested that the plan will have a bad effect on the tourist trade.

The island prison may, moreover, create an unfavourable impression of Italian methods: Favignana has a bad reputation as a prison used by the Bourbons for political prisoners.

OVERSEAS



Bishop Muzorewa, the Rhodesian nationalist leader, addresses a crowd in Salisbury after being out of the country for six weeks.

Doubts on Malaysian-Thai sweep

From M. G. G. Pillai
Kuala Lumpur, July 17

The third combined Malaysian-Thai military operation in south Thailand this year against communist sanctuaries and staging areas, involving 10,000 troops, has become the largest military operation in South-East Asia since the Vietnam war ended in 1974.

But there are increasing doubts, even within the military, whether these large-scale troop movements, which enter the third week tomorrow and were preceded by heavy air strikes and artillery gunfire, could contain the elusive guerrillas of the Malaysian Communist Party and its break-away Marxist-Leninist faction, estimated to total 2,600.

So far, the two-pronged operation into the Betong district of Yala province, and the Waeng district of Narathiwat province, have claimed an estimated 10 communist guerrillas killed and 25 injured. About 15 suspects have been detained and a few communists have been captured. The allied troops have suffered at least seven casualties, all from booby traps.

But what makes this operation significant is the Malaysian decision to focus its Waeng district where some 600 Malaysian communists of the 10th Regiment of the Malaysian Communist Party have their base camps and headquarters.

The Malaysian Government has always been reluctant to admit the presence of this Malay force headed by Mr Rashid Mydin, a Communist of long standing, whose younger brother is a member of the Perak state Assembly for the ruling National Front Coalition.

Observers in Kuala Lumpur feel that any move against the Malay force would increase Thai pressure for help against the Thai Muslim irredentists, active just north of the Waeng operation area and across the border from Kelantan state where the governing party, though included in the National Front, has quietly provided material and moral support over the years.

Tan Sri Ghazali Shafie, the Malaysian Minister of Home Affairs, obviously had this in mind when he said that the present operation, code-named Chahaya Bena (Sacred Ray) was aimed at "our common enemy" the Communists.

There seems to be a growing view in Bangkok that the irredentist, who want to carve an independent Muslim state out of the five border provinces of Thailand, and should not concern the Malaysians, but how firm this view is remains to be seen.

So far, the physical gains in the operation have been minimal, but this is to be expected. The Malaysian Communist Party

has been able to operate at will in Betong and Waeng with no pressure from either the Malaysians or the Thais since the first emergency ended in 1960.

The Malaysian task force commander at Betong, Brigadier-General Hassan bin Haji Mohamed Salleh said: "We must not expect an operation of this nature to provide much that can be quantified, but the operational gains are considerable. Our aim, essentially, is harassment".

Despite the optimistic reports in the Malaysian newspapers—which tend to treat the operation as if the Communists were running for their lives in circles after the bombardment—there is considerable doubt among both Malaysian and Thai officers on the value of the air and artillery strikes.

There has still been no assessment on the ground of the effectiveness of the air strikes. Most measures of the first emergency recall the unloading of 11,000 tons of bombs in 1954 on a hill overrun by Communists a few miles outside Ipoh town, the result of which appeared to be one dead monkey.

There are also doubts whether the gains obtained would remain once the operation is terminated. General Hassan believed that the Thais would maintain the pressure then.

Latest intelligence reports say the Communists dislodged by the first two combined operations in the Salaka area on the eastern end of the Malaysian-Thai border, are back in their old haunts operating again at will.

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Israeli food prices to rise 25pc today

From Moshe Brilliant
Tel Aviv, July 17

When Israeli shops open tomorrow morning the price tags on basic foods will be approximately 25 per cent higher. Fuel prices will rise similarly.

The new Government, led by Mr Menachem Begin, in a drastic anti-inflationary move, cut subsidies on bread, milk, dairy products, eggs, frozen poultry and edible oil. The higher prices will go into effect from midnight.

The rise in the cost of fuel tonight will cause commensurate increases in the cost of electricity, water, public transport and haulage. Postal rates will also rise by 25 per cent.

The Government also decided to cut the national defence budget by 1,400m Israeli pounds (£80m) in an unprecedented move. Other ministries' budgets are to be cut by an aggregate of 900m Israeli pounds, setting the total national budget at 121,000m Israeli pounds. The cut in the civil service will be frozen as from today.

Announcing these measures at a televised press conference, Mr Simcha Ehrlich, the Finance Minister, said: "Without these measures, we would have returned to a galloping inflation and faced the disintegration of our foreign currency reserves."

He estimated that the higher prices would increase living

expenses by approximately 5 per cent and said low income groups would be compensated through higher grants so that their standard of living should not be impaired.

He said that the measures were urgent because every day that passed widened the budget deficit. Eventually it would have been necessary to raise prices still higher.

If these steps had not been taken now, the budget would have reached 131,000m Israeli pounds, compared to 122,500m pounds proposed by the former Government before the elections. This would have meant pumping another 13,000m Israeli pounds into the economy and would have made the currency worthless, the ministers said.

The options for the Government had been cutting expenses or raising taxes. The cut in the budget was in accordance with the Likud Party's election pledges.

Some observers suspected political motives in the timing of the announcement while Mr Begin was in Washington to meet President Carter. The measures will strengthen Mr Begin's case for American economic aid.

Mr Ehrlich said that in order to promote exports, the Government will continue the policy of creeping devaluations. He announced another 2 per cent devaluation as from tonight.

Police hurt in clash over Sabbath observance

From Our Correspondent
Tel Aviv, July 17

Five policemen were hurt by stone-throwing in the third weekend of violent Sabbath demonstrations in Be'er Brak, a town north-east of Tel Aviv where strictly orthodox Jews predominate.

The conflict was originally over the right of motorists to drive their cars on the Sabbath through a street inhabited by orthodox Jews, who take a stricter view of observing the day. It became a national issue three weeks ago when a young man died as his vehicle crashed against a chain placed across the road by the municipality, without the approval of the central Government.

Militant opponents of religious coercion went to the town to demonstrate on subsequent Friday nights and Saturdays. The local religious zealots, it seems, were also reinforced by ones from other parts of Israel. A big contingent of police

was on hand this weekend with orders to allow the passage only of cars of local residents and their visitors, in accordance with a compromise arranged by the municipality. Religious zealots lined the street and shouted abuse at the motorists.

An approaching group refused to assault passengers, but was driven back by police.

The main problem of the police was in preventing the thousands of religious Jews from blocking the street physically. They charged into them, sometimes using their batons. The demonstrators responded with stones and bottles. Arrests were made but everyone held was released later. There were no reports of civilian casualties.

A committee appointed by the Ministry of Transport has heard witnesses and visited the street. It is expected to make recommendations on this week on its use on the Sabbath.

CIA inquiry after drugs disclosures

From Patrick Brogan
Washington, July 17

The Senate Intelligence Committee plans to hold hearings later this week on the latest revelations about the Central Intelligence Agency.

The director of the CIA, Admiral Stansfield Turner, wrote to the committee's chairman, Senator Daniel Inouye, last Friday to inform him that a discovery made in the records of the CIA's drug programme indicated that the agency's research into the effects of certain drugs during the 1950s and 1960s was more extensive than had been suspected. It had involved experiments on many more unsuspecting patients, including addicts, alcoholics and cancer patients.

The drug programme was secret, and bore the code name MK-ULTRA. Its existence was first revealed during hearings conducted by the Senate committee in 1975 under the chairmanship of Senator Frank Church, and it was learnt that one man, Dr Frank Olson, was fed the hallucinatory drug LSD without his knowledge in 1953 and suffered a mental breakdown and suicide under its effects.

When the climate began to change during the early days of the Watergate affair, the CIA purged its files, attempting to destroy anything incriminating, including the files of MK-ULTRA. Admiral Turner's letter last week showed that a thorough search of the archives had turned up documents which had inadvertently escaped the shredder.

The letter went on to observe that because the new papers mostly concern financial aspects of the operation, they do not give a clear picture, but provide many clues.

US ethics committee in disarray

From Our Own Correspondent
Washington, July 17

The House of Representatives ethics committee, which is meant to be investigating the allegations that many members of Congress accepted bribes to favour South Korean interests in disarray this weekend. Its chief counsel, Mr Philip Lacovara, resigned abruptly on Friday after a quarrel with the committee's chairman and the House's ability to investigate itself is now in serious doubt.

Mr Lacovara was one of the most brilliant members of the Watergate special prosecutor's team. He resigned in protest when President Ford pardoned Mr Nixon. His new resignation has led to calls, mostly from Republicans, that a new special prosecutor should be appointed to investigate the Korean bribes allegations.

The Democratic leaders of Congress are, of course, opposed to the idea of a new special prosecutor. Another Democrat, Mr John P. Flynt, criticized him in a newspaper interview and suggested that Mr Lacovara's resignation was submitted by his law firm, not too high.

Mr Flynt said that Mr Lacovara must accept that he was an employee of the committee, not a member, the chairman or the whole committee. He said he had overstepped the mark in sending memoranda suggesting that the committee was being disarray in its work.

In those memoranda, Mr Lacovara noted the first refusal of the committee's members and the small number of committee members who attended

Lords call for EEC farm policy review

By David Wood

The House of Lords select committee on the European Community has joined the call for a review of the common agricultural policy. After a detailed examination of the EEC preliminary draft budget, the committee reports that pending an increase in Community revenues is important to make room for social and economic development by containing spending on the common agricultural policy, which amounts to more than 70 per cent of the total.

Assuming that in 1978 and 1979 transitional arrangements as interpreted by the Commission will apply, the committee puts the British gross contribution to the EEC budget at £1,029m next year.

The best estimate it could make on Britain's net contribution was that it would exceed receipts by £50m, although a considerable amount of that figure will be offset in economic terms by advantages Britain should continue to derive from compensation.

It is stated that the relatively high net budgetary contribution results from the dominance of the agricultural sector. Specifically, the report says, the committee regrets that decisions taken in April by the Council of Agricultural Ministers made it inevitable that the budget would continue to be dominated by "heavy expenditure to support unwanted production of a number of agricultural products".

On the Community's new unit of account, the committee says that it is essential to prevent from causing an unintended and unacceptable increase in Britain's proportionate share of budget contributions in 1978 and 1979.

Prison guards held hostage in cell

Trani, southern Italy, July 17.—Four prisoners believed to be armed with knives took 11 guards hostage here today and held them in a barricaded cell. They were negotiating with prison authorities.—Agence France-Press.

Watches seized at occupied Lip plant

From Ian Murray
Paris, July 17

For the second weekend running the police have moved into the Lip watch factory in Besançon, which is occupied by the workers, and have taken away hundreds of watches.

The Socialist trade union confederation CPDT, which is supporting the workers, issued a warning that such "provocations" will be met with vigour. The union asks all its members to show solidarity with the Lip workers and to be prepared to take action when called upon.

What seems to have precipitated the police move is that since June 17 the workers have been selling the watches in order to pay salaries. The present occupation began on May 3 last, year but as the factory had officially closed the workers have qualified for unemployment benefit of 90 per cent of their wages. This pay is for a year and for 50 of the workers it stopped on June 13. To make up their pay unofficial sales of watches have been organized.

So far more than 7,000 watches worth a total of £1,411,600, have been sold. Further sales are planned

French angry at Soviet move over visas

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, July 17

The French Government is to call in the Soviet Ambassador tomorrow to demand an explanation why six French lecturers living in Moscow have been refused a renewal to their visas.

M. Louis de Guiringaud, the Foreign Minister, said before leaving for a tour of West Africa today that he considered this to be a serious matter.

"This refusal does not conform to the spirit which existed at the time of the original exchange of letters with Mr Andrei Gromyko (the Soviet Foreign Minister)", he said. He added that if the French Government did not receive an adequate explanation then the matter would be taken further. Reciprocal

Corfu club raiders may be in Albania

From Our Own Correspondent
Athens, July 17

The search continued today for the raiders who stole £330,000 from the Mediterranean in Corfu and killed an employee before fleeing in a commandeered motor yacht.

The Greek authorities notified the Albanian Government today that the raiders might have taken refuge along the coast of Albania. Italy and Yugoslavia were alerted through Interpol immediately after the robbery.

The three armed men held by the cashier's office of the holiday camp yesterday, using money and the passports of guests, most of whom are French. Besides killing the French cashier, they wounded two other men.

The men, who spoke French, fled from the camp yesterday to deter holidaymakers and club employees who were giving chase and throwing stones at them. They drove to a nearby marina, where they hijacked a fast 40ft American-owned motor yacht. They sped north, a course that could take them towards Albania, Italy or Yugoslavia.

Greek coastguard patrol boats and military aircraft went in pursuit. The raiders had a head start because they had cut the telephone wires at the Club Mediterranée to gain time before the alarm could be given.

Patrol boats and aircraft continued the search today but had not located the yacht before dusk. Greek police also sent out alerts to the small islands in the Ionian Sea to be on the lookout for the yacht in case it might have been hidden in some isolated cove.

E German guard flees to West

Berlin, July 17.—Andreas Fehder, an East German soldier, aged 20, has fled to West Germany, where he told officials he had shot one of his comrades to death accidentally.

The shooting took place on Thursday and so far there has been no request for the soldier's return.

Airliner hit by storm comes down in sea

Manila, July 17.—A Philippine turbo-prop airliner came down in the sea in a storm when approaching Mactan airport on a domestic flight today. All 25 passengers and crew were rescued by villagers in boats.—Reuters.

Two Palestinian groups in refugee camp battle

Beirut, July 17.—Rival Palestinian guerrilla groups fought a 10-hour battle in one of Beirut's biggest refugee camps, the Sabra camp, today.

The guerrillas publicly blamed a pro-Syrian faction for starting the shooting and trying to prolong Lebanon's troubles.

Rocket explosions and machine gun fire echoed through the city's southern districts, causing a cancellation for the day of some public activities recently resumed after the disruption of the 1975-76 civil war.

Palestinian leaders summoned a hurried meeting, but the main antagonists stayed away. They are the pro-Syrian Sa'iqi organization and the pro-Iraqi "rejectionist" Palestine Liberation Front (PLF).

Belgrade July 17.—A hunting knife tossed by a pilot in an aircraft while in flight saved the life of a parachutist who was dangling helplessly from another aircraft a Yugoslav paper said today.

As Mr Milan Sinic was jumping over the airport of Murat Sobota he tripped over some ropes at the door of the aircraft and was left dangling 2500ft above the ground unable to return to the aircraft or to cut loose.

There was nobody else on board the plane except the pilot who could not leave the controls.

Friends on the ground saw the predicament and one of them boarded a light sports aircraft from which he managed to toss a hunting knife to the parachutist, hanging upside down who then cut the ropes around his legs and landed safely.

The aircraft with the parachutist had been flying on reserve fuel which was almost gone when it touched down.—AP.

Korchnoi's lead increased in chess semi-final

Evian, July 17.—Viktor Korchnoi, the Soviet defector, took a decisive 5-1 lead over Lev Polugayevsky of the Soviet Union, today, winning the sixth game of their World Chess Championship semi-final here after 60 moves.

In the other semi-final in Geneva Boris Spassky, the former World Champion, came back into contention against Lajos Portisch of Hungary, by winning the fifth game of their match. They now have 2½ points each. The sixth game was adjourned yesterday, with experts predicting a draw though Portisch has an extra pawn.

Amsterdam, July 17.—Tony Miles, of Britain, won the IBM International Chess Tournament here for the second year running. He finished with 10½ points, one more than Huikei of Yugoslavia.—Reuters, and Agence France-Press.

President Sadat heckled by party

Cairo July.—Egypt's armed forces are to be developed by Saudi Arabia free of cost for five years, President Sadat said yesterday.

He made the announcement to a stormy meeting of the Arab Socialist Union, the watchdog of Egypt's three political parties during which he was heckled and accused of being pro-Western.

The President also spoke for the first time in terms of recognizing Israel as "one of the Middle East states". Respondents could not recall President Sadat using this form of words before although he was frequently expressed his readiness to recognize Israel's existence under certain conditions.

He defended his open-door policy to the West and Egypt's close links with conservative Arab countries.

"When I wanted to develop our armed forces in 1976—and the Soviet Union has been imposing an embargo on Egypt from the 1973 Arab-Israeli ceasefire until now—I went to the Arabs", he said.

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Cricket

Essex beat Sussex with ease to take over leadership in league

By Richard Streeton
CHELMSFORD: Essex (4 pts) beat Sussex by eight wickets.

Essex took over the leadership of the John Player League when they won against Sussex yesterday by a margin of eight wickets. The victory was a foregone conclusion, but Essex's performance was impressive. They scored 140 in 38 overs to win. Harv hitting by Gooch, ably supported by Fosh, took Essex safely past first time. Sussex, who had been expected to move into joint top place in the table had they won, but their chase never materialized. Threatening rain clouds provided Essex with an additional impetus when they were taken 140 in 38 overs to win. Harv hitting by Gooch, ably supported by Fosh, took Essex safely past first time. Sussex, who had been expected to move into joint top place in the table had they won, but their chase never materialized.

There seem to be no half measures about Sussex on Sunday. They are very good, but all three of their batsmen on Sunday have been out. Yesterday they badly missed the bats and produced a total of 100. It was a night which obviously added the pressure that was missing from the bowling.

The Essex first wicket pair were separated until 39 had come from 20 overs. Gooch, who hit Spencer over long on for six with a pulled drive, was taken 10 runs from three balls by Greig when he was caught behind in the same over. Fosh carried on sensibly until he was hit by a ball from Barclay in the 47th over. It was McEwan whose carefree approach took Essex to victory with a run.

For Sussex nobody stayed long enough to play the sustained innings needed to overcome accurate bowling and resolute fielding. Sussex began their chase with the momentum was not maintained, and a debatable shuffle in the batting order did not work out for them. Sussex were happily launched at 52 for two in the 16th over when Snow came in at number 4, presumably with the idea that he should slog against the bowlers off spin bowler. Barclay had been cut and swept by Barclay and Greig, who added 46 for the second wicket. But at 100, Barclay had been bowled by Pont, Acfield settled down into a much better line and length.

Middle-order batsmen in good form for Surrey

Surrey beat Middlesex by three wickets with two overs to spare in the John Player League at the Oval yesterday. They put Middlesex in a difficult position by scoring 166 for seven in 32 overs. Middlesex were behind the clock in the middle of their innings, but Mitchell (52), Roope (38) and Baker (48 not out), gave them victory. It was Baker's highest score for Surrey. Smith (54) and Radley (48) put on 100 for the first time in a first-class match. Mitchell, who took four for 43.

Milton Keynes Northamptonshire are still without a Sunday win. Rain caused the abandonment of their match with Yorkshire. Yorkshire scored 166 for seven in 32 overs. Middlesex had been dismissed without scoring. But Hampshire hit a six and six fours in 39 and Love a six and four fours in 36. Sharp hit 27, with two fours, and Sidebottom 21 before rain reduced the Yorkshire innings to 38 overs.

At the Oval yesterday, Surrey were behind the clock in the middle of their innings, but Mitchell (52), Roope (38) and Baker (48 not out), gave them victory. It was Baker's highest score for Surrey. Smith (54) and Radley (48) put on 100 for the first time in a first-class match. Mitchell, who took four for 43.

Resolution from India

New Delhi, July 16.—India will make a resolution at this month's International Cricket Conference meeting in London to demand that any player who takes part in an "unauthorized match or series" from test, first-class and other matches.

The resolution was unanimously adopted by the working committee of India's cricket board of control at a meeting in Bangalore yesterday. The board secretary, Ghulam Ahmed, said reporters.

Mr Ahmed said the resolution made it clear that an unauthorized match or series was one not organized or permitted by the ICC. The ICC meeting on July 26 and 27 will discuss the series of matches proposed by the Australian businessman, Kerry Packard.

Cycling

Thevenet finally overhauls West German

Avoriaz, July 17.—Bernard Thevenet, of France, snatched the overall lead in the Tour de France cycle race today from the young West German, Dietrich Thurau, at the end of a demanding 8.7-mile time trial climb.

The 29-year-old winner of the 1975 tour holds an 11-second advantage over the 22-year-old Thurau who won the 1976 Tour de France. Thevenet, who was 11th in the 22-day event, Four other cyclists are within striking distance of Thevenet, including Eddy Merckx, of Belgium, now third overall 25 seconds behind the leader. The Belgian is aiming for a record sixth tour win.

The Belgian, Lucian Van Impe, last year's winner, is fourth just 33 seconds behind Thevenet. The former world champion, Henk Kuiper, of the Netherlands, also ready to attack in fifth place.

Joop Zoetemelk, of the Netherlands, who won today's time trial, is sixth. He was over 45 seconds ahead of his rivals in the second half of today's 15th stage. Morane to Avoriaz, with the powerful climber, Van Impe, in second position.

The time trial was a continuous uphill haul which exhausted riders, and offered the first real test of the new season. Thevenet, who had taken it easy on the flat stages through Northern France and Belgium. Zoetemelk, snatching a milestone from the determined Thevenet.

First half stage: 1. J. Zoetemelk (Ned), 2. J. Van Impe (Bel), 3. J. Van Impe (Bel), 4. J. Van Impe (Bel), 5. J. Van Impe (Bel), 6. J. Van Impe (Bel), 7. J. Van Impe (Bel), 8. J. Van Impe (Bel), 9. J. Van Impe (Bel), 10. J. Van Impe (Bel), 11. J. Van Impe (Bel), 12. J. Van Impe (Bel), 13. J. Van Impe (Bel), 14. J. Van Impe (Bel), 15. J. Van Impe (Bel), 16. J. Van Impe (Bel), 17. J. Van Impe (Bel), 18. J. Van Impe (Bel), 19. J. Van Impe (Bel), 20. J. Van Impe (Bel), 21. J. Van Impe (Bel), 22. J. Van Impe (Bel), 23. J. Van Impe (Bel), 24. J. Van Impe (Bel), 25. J. Van Impe (Bel), 26. J. Van Impe (Bel), 27. J. Van Impe (Bel), 28. J. Van Impe (Bel), 29. J. Van Impe (Bel), 30. J. Van Impe (Bel), 31. J. Van Impe (Bel), 32. J. Van Impe (Bel), 33. J. Van Impe (Bel), 34. J. Van Impe (Bel), 35. J. Van Impe (Bel), 36. J. Van Impe (Bel), 37. J. Van Impe (Bel), 38. J. Van Impe (Bel), 39. J. Van Impe (Bel), 40. J. Van Impe (Bel), 41. J. Van Impe (Bel), 42. J. Van Impe (Bel), 43. J. 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Educational & Public Appointments

CIVIL SERVICE COLLEGE

Lecturer in Economics

£5420-£7970

The Civil Service College provides a wide range of management and development training for civil servants at its teaching centres in Sunningdale and London. The Lecturer will develop and plan courses showing how economics can be made relevant to various spheres of Government activity. They will be designed for civil servants from many different fields and at all management levels. No particular specialisation is necessary; the task is to convey the basic ideas of economic analysis to non-specialists and relate them to particular aspects of government work.

speakers. There will be opportunities for research. Candidates must be aged at least 26, and should normally have a 1st or 2nd class honours degree in economics or a related subject. Relevant teaching experience and a knowledge of the public sector would be advantageous. Salary at Sunningdale will be in the range indicated (£465 higher in London). The appointment is pensionable, and renewable for a period of 5 years or an indefinite term. For further details and an application form (to be returned by 17 August 1977) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants, RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 68551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref. G/9557/1.

Headship

The Board of Governors of Hampden House School with to appoint a new Head.

Hampden House School is an independent day and boarding school for girls from 11-18 years (approximately 120 pupils). The new Head should be capable of leading the school along modern educational lines in accordance with requirements of the present day.

A flat is provided which could accommodate a married couple. Salary benefits with boarding allowance and government superannuation.

Further particulars from the Chairman, Hampden House School, Great Aylesbury, Bucks, HP16 9JB.

Applications marked 'Personal' including the names and addresses of two referees, should be submitted to the Chairman not later than the 8th August, 1977.

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NATIONAL MUSEUM OF WALES

Keeper of Art

Applications are invited for the post of Keeper of Art in the National Museum of Wales. The post is a full-time position, and the successful candidate will be responsible for the care and conservation of the Museum's art collection. The post is a senior position, and the successful candidate will be responsible for the care and conservation of the Museum's art collection. The post is a senior position, and the successful candidate will be responsible for the care and conservation of the Museum's art collection.

University of Auckland

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

LECTURESHIP IN MEDICINE

COURSE TUTOR

PRIMARY EDUCATION

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

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Staff Nurse

Health Screening Clinic

The Clinic, in Westminster, is run by a team of 3 nurses and a Radiographer, under the supervision of a Sister, in a busy, but congenial, atmosphere. The work involves close contact with medical and administrative colleagues.

Training will be given on all aspects of the work, but experience of gynaecology would be useful. Hours are regular: 8.30 am to 4.30 pm, Monday to Friday. Salary and holidays will be on NHS terms.

For further information and application form (to be returned by 29 July 1977) write to: Contact S. J. Sheldon, Civil Service Department, Personnel Services Division, Room 1/101, Old Admiralty Building, Whitehall, London, SW1. Telephone (01) 273 3687.

CIVIL SERVICE MEDICAL SERVICE

ETON COLLEGE

HEAD OF SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

Applications are invited for this senior post from suitably qualified science graduates, to succeed the present holder who is taking up a University post at Cambridge. The appointment will be for an agreed term not less than 1 September 1978, and the post will be re-advertised in September, 1977, unless a very strongly qualified candidate applies before then. The Science Department at Eton has 21 graduate masters and good buildings, equipment, and technical support.

The preferred age range for candidates is 35-45; they should have high academic qualifications and subsequent experience in schools, university, or an industrial or government research organisation. Accommodation is provided.

Applications should be sent to The Headmaster, Eton College, Windsor, Berkshire, from whom further information may be obtained.

University of Papua New Guinea

(Port Moresby)

Applications are invited for the post of

PROFESSOR OF AGRICULTURE

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LECTURER IN MINING ENGINEERING

Applications are invited for the post of

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Busy doing nothing, and costing us a fortune

"London Looks Forward" was the name of a two-day conference held in the Queen Elizabeth Hall last July 4 and 5. It was extremely well organized, highly enjoyable for the members (the hospitality was magnificent), but despite the continuous presence and active participation of the Duke of Edinburgh (who intervened frequently to say sensible things) it was almost totally ignored by the newspapers. Why?

We were told at the beginning that the conference was to be about the means by which Londoners were to achieve in the future the aims everyone was agreed upon: good homes for all, a pleasant environment, plenty of jobs, good transport facilities, high standards of education for the young, a dignified and rewarding life for the elderly, culture and recreation for all, and so on. Some attempts were made to disrupt the consensus about these aims and suggest that we did not know what we were after—but they didn't succeed.

The reason the conference was almost totally unnewsworthy was that, at the end of two days the message had come through loud and clear. Given finite resources, nobody had the foggiest idea what the means to these ends should be. There was not even the hint of a consensus on priorities. A number of pressure groups gave accomplished presentations: the "more roads" lobby, the "more pedestrians" lobby, the public transport lobby, the public sector housing lobby, the owner-occupation lobby, and the private landlord lobby (very skillfully put by Prince Philip on behalf of the Duchy of Cornwall); the st. '1 industrial business lobby, the bigger industrial business lobby and the only reason why it presented the airing of a big industrial business lobby was that it had departed from London (and all were agreed that big industrial business would be mad to come back), and many more besides.

No hint of a principle emerged about what, given finite resources, was to be preferred to what. The participants were sneered at from the rostrum by the extremely attractive Director of Combination at the Community Arts Project, Depford, because they were "decision-makers" and lived rather well. I doubt if it would have been any better if we had been living in the manner she wanted to impose upon us all. (It later emerged that she lived rather well too.)

So what? No one has yet addressed their minds to the serious cost of paying for government designed to do us know not what. The very best thing about the conference from the point of view of Londoners was that it was held at someone else's expense. My personal thanks to Thames Television and the GLC for a most interesting time, two spectacular buffet luncheons and a cocktail party, but do not let anybody pretend that the two days so spent were of any value to anyone—as the newspapers spotted by their neglect.

The tragedy for Londoners is that a very much larger and very much more extravagant example of high-falutin' nonsense is in almost continuous session along the embankment at County Hall, conducted at their expense. The costs of that institution are crippling. Just the cost of holding the GLC election this year—not including the expenses of the candidates, but only returning officers' fees and payments to staff for counting votes and the like is estimated at £710,000 (and this is before the fun starts). This may not seem so very much but 710 community action groups and/or local voluntary associations (or over 20 to each London borough) could have been given £1,000 each and it would have been worth it to them. On present trends the next election in 1981 will cost £1.9m, not £710,000.

It is the cost of these overheads which need urgent examination. Another example is the "Great Debate on Education". Has anyone thought what this is costing the taxpayer? Most of us would surely admit that we haven't the foggiest notion how our children should be educated. We all know the end product we don't want, but what we do want has been a vexed question at least since Plato wrote the *Republic*. The very fact that it is unanswerable keeps philosophers in business. Why should we suppose that anyone (or all of us together) has the answer? It is a mistake to suppose that we can. The money there is should be spent on education, not on conferences to try and arrive at a national consensus on what education is all about. We are not all alike and differences should be fostered, not frowned upon. The whole idea of a national policy on education is disgusting and money spent in trying to achieve a national policy is money wasted.

The reason that this is not more clearly seen is that these conferences and great debates are great fun for the participants. People who engage in them have a wonderful time. They should think more often about who is paying for it all. The more money which is spent on waffle, the less there is to spend on what needs to be done.

Oliver Stutchbury

The author is a former member of the GLC and a campaigner for its abolition.

Nato and the French: a question of deciding when to press the button

France's Defence Minister replies to growing criticism of nuclear strategy

Ever since President Giscard d'Estaing came to office, but more so in the past year, the Government's defence policy, especially in the nuclear field, has been under attack from both the Gaullists and the Communists. Put in a nutshell, the charge is that it has strayed from the pure doctrine of independent national defence and is edging its way back into Nato's integrated command.

These charges and insinuations have repeatedly been denied by the President, the Prime Minister, the Defence Minister and the chairman of the joint chiefs of Staff. M. Yvon Bourges, who has been responsible for defence for the past three years, and brings to his task a quiet Breton efficiency, obstinacy and determination, told me in an interview that "our policy of deterrence is marked by a rigorous continuity". Similar charges had been levelled at General de Gaulle because, no sooner had he left Nato than he insisted that "France was resolved to fight alongside her allies should one of them be the object of unprovoked aggression," the minister added.

The same insinuations were

levelled against President Pompidou because in the 1972 White Paper on defence, M. Michel Debre, that paragon of orthodox Gaullism, said that "national though it is, our deterrence is an element which carries weight in the prevention of a crisis in Europe." France "remains a member of the alliance," M. Bourges insisted. "She has left Nato to preserve her entire freedom of decision in defence matters, notably to decide on her possible engagement in a crisis in Europe or elsewhere. Our defence is national."

The diversification of the French nuclear forces, notably the development of tactical nuclear weapons, had not brought about an evolution in the strategy of deterrence. "Together with our greater technological capacity, it enables us today, far more than 10 years ago, capable of striking the enemy wherever he may be, anywhere and at any time," as General Ailleret, General de Gaulle's chief of staff, wished, M. Bourges continued.

This did not mean a switch from nuclear "massive retaliation" to "flexible response." "France has never adopted a strategy of all or nothing, for

such a doctrine is highly credible and responsible. She does not, for all that, lay herself open to the risks of a "flexible response" through the use of tactical nuclear weapons. The concept of use of those weapons is closely integrated with that of strategic weapons. For France, the use of tactical nuclear weapons would be the fearful means of signifying her determination to go to the bitter end—a kind of warning signal in effect—to an enemy who would have underestimated her determination. In short, from the moment of involvement of tactical weapons, the battle would have fundamentally changed its character," M. Bourges stressed.

Quite apart from the greater difficulty of political control, that was the reason why the French Government refused to contemplate the development of "mini-nukes", miniaturized nuclear weapons. "Far from reinforcing our deterrent, they would, at best, make it more credible and terrifying—in view of the qualitative level of our nuclear weapons." The Prime Minister had recently

spoken clearly on this subject, linking it with the French refusal of the possibility of a nuclear bandwagon, "so that tactical weapons are and will remain limited".

In answer to charges that the Government had abandoned the Gaullist concept of the "national sanctuary" and substituted for it that of the "forward battle" on the Elbe, M. Bourges said this concept had never implied that France gave up the right to intervene outside her frontiers when her vital interests were at stake. "Those who wish for France a nuclear role must take into account the global situation."

In 1972, his predecessor, M. Debre, had said "it would be illusory to pretend to insure the security of our territory without insuring an interest in the security of our environment and, promptly to any crisis which breaks out below the nuclear threshold, at least in the first stage." M. Bourges stressed.

"I asked the minister why was that the so-called 'deterrence' of Britain on Nato with regard to the use of nuclear weapons was frequently contrasted with the 'independence' of France in the same respect (often by the same people who are accused the Government of undermining it). He replied that 'It is not for me to cast judgment on the defence policy of friendly countries. Deterrence rests essentially on a choice and a political will, for it is organized in the light of national interests to be defended. Britain and France are in a different situation both as regards the products and the implementation of nuclear arms systems. France is not part of Nato. Though Britain is, she has none the less a specific position in which she is acknowledged because she is a nuclear power.' In other words, it is French Government's full apprehension that Britain is sole control of her own nuclear forces and of their own even if she has agreed, with France, to participate in coalition in peace time already."

Charles Hargrove

The men who brought New York to its knees

Urban catastrophe like last week's blackout and its anarchic aftermath is the staple of New York news and TV. It is something New Yorkers have become inured to. The "crisis" is rarely discussed any more in terms of a set of problems with specific causes and plausible solutions. "How does a city die?" ask the authors of *Abuses of Power*. "How many ways can it die?" Can it commit suicide? The state of the city is such that these questions need answers.

Jack Newfield is an editor at *The Village Voice*. Paul du Brul is a union organizer and urban planner. They have a passionate concern for the native city and they have written an eloquent and angry indictment of the "permanent government" of New York—the men who exercise real power in the city. It is their contention that the fall of New York could and should have been avoided and that it occurred because of the arrogance and foolishness of its leadership.

The "permanent government" of New York, as defined by du Brul and Newfield, is composed of the Wall Street finance houses and banks, the city's developers, and its "clubhouse politicians", who have notably increased their power during the administration of the current mayor, Abraham Beame. Though the authors admit that union demands hastened New York's collapse, they suggest that the city is by no means such a "union town" as popular mythology would indicate. When the crisis broke in 1975, the authors contend, the unions were made the scapegoat for the city's ills. It was suggested that the city was in trouble because it had "tried to do too much for its residents and placed itself at the mercy of its municipal unions. The only solution was to turn the city over to the bankers, who knew about money."

Du Brul and Newfield credit the Bankers, who have run the city through the emergency financial control board since 1975, with an extraordinary degree of myopia. As they demonstrate, the banks did well for a long time out of the city's insatiable demands for credit and their role in the crisis was far from noble. They carried for instance, to underwrite New York's paper, dumping it all the while in increasing quantities on the market. Their strategy of brutal cuts in services to "lapse the market" has caused more pain than benefit. New York's credit has not been restored and meanwhile the city's firemen, policemen or schoolteachers. Rather than high taxes, and inadequate services are behind the continuing flight of business and middle class whites from New York. "They are making a desert and calling it a balanced budget," the authors conclude.

Behind the crisis lay many years of policies that enriched the city's developers at the expense of its taxpayers. Governor Rockefeller's device of "moral obligation" bonds—issues for construction that were backed by the state's word and consequently did not require a referendum—led to such debacles as the World Trade Centre, the bankrupt

Urban Development Corporation and the fiasco of Battery Park, a massive land reclamation project adjacent to Wall Street that is little more than an empty site. City government, as Lincoln Steffens observed more than seventy years ago, is "Of the people by the people for the people." Wherever there is a flow of public money, it is diverted into the pockets of enterprising entrepreneurs, smart lawyers and clubhouse politicians. The authors entertainingly explore the dismal spectrum between the "legal graft" pioneered by the redoubtable George Washington Plunkett of Tammany Hall and outright larceny. Public service jobs are filled by placement, lawyers fees are inflated, contracts are awarded without benefit of tender.

A great strength of *Abuses of Power* is the authors' refusal to subscribe to the sense of nostalgia, amnesia and Romanticism that habitually affects those who write about the great crooks of urban American politics. As example, they cite the lament of a Brooklyn machine politician engaged in argument with a reformer in the assembly. You think it takes guts to stand up for what is right? he asked. "That doesn't take guts. What takes guts is to stand up for what you know is wrong, day after day, year after year." If the sums are large, the sums are low, the arena diminished. These are small-time crooks not great city bosses. Yet the book is less satisfactory in its prescriptions. The current bankers' wisdom is that the city should curtail its programme of "planned shrinkage" with the equalization of welfare payments, the urban poor would have the incentive to re-migrate to the south, where the cost of living is lower. New York could then raise the ghettoes and attract new industry in their place. Why, they ask, would people "return home" when there is no work awaiting them. Migrations have happened in virtually every developing (or developed) country in this century. The only solution is to

Nicholas Fraser

Why priests have become targets in El Salvador

One morning in May, Fathers Higinio and José Alas received a neatly-typed envelope at their home in the small parish of Siquin, about thirty miles outside the capital of El Salvador. The contents terrified the two men. Inside was a folded black card illustrated with a cut-out of a white hand and a message crudely spelt out in Hittite letters cut from newspapers. Drawing its inspiration from the fifth chapter of Daniel, it blazoned its claim: "Weighed, measured, days counted". For the brothers, who have devoted their lives to the education and betterment of the lives of the Salvadorean peasants, the card meant the beginning of the end of their work. But they were lucky. The previous day they had been at the funeral of a friend and colleague. He received no warning from El Salvador's feared White Warriors' Union, just a burst of machine-gun fire and a bullet in the head. Father Navarro's only transgression was that he worked too hard and too openly for his peasant parishioners against

the greed of their landlords and the repression of El Salvador's right-wing government. He was too exposed and too well known and thus became the symbol and the starting-point for the present assault on the Church. The White Warriors' Union, a right-wing group composed largely of ex-soldiers and policemen with close links to the army, is a comparatively new arrival on the scene in the small and most densely populated of the central American states. It has said that all Jesuit priests still in El Salvador on Wednesday will be killed and all their schools, houses and those associated with them will become legitimate military targets. The group's threat is aimed specifically at Jesuits, as foreigners, in all the Union's public statements, local priests like the brothers Alas are equally at risk. The brothers have received numerous threats over the years and have stayed on, but this time they fled the country with the assistance of the Papal Nuncio and the American Ambassador.

The peasants, the back-bone of the country's coffee-based economy, have been a forgotten political factor since the suppression of their revolt against exploitation in 1932 when about 20,000 died. Political activities in the countryside were then banned and the landowners returned to their control of the peasants' lives. The Roman Catholic Church then took up the peasants' cause and by 1972 when Colonel Arturo Aranda Molina took office, the government was beginning to recognize that something ought to be done about the miserable lives of the majority of Salvadoreans. And in the election campaign of his Partido de Conciliación Nacional Colleague, General Carlos Romo, who well-off and the beginning of this month, there was provision for modest land reform. But even this proposal, which would have meant the purchase and distribution to peasants of 1,200 hectares from one estate in the east of the country, proved too much for the landowners.

The landowners, some of whom have been implicated in the funding of massive rigging in the spring elections, organized themselves into the National Association for Private Enterprise on a national scale. It is estimated that some two million dollars have been channelled by the Nape into a fund to fight the movement for agrarian reform. Meanwhile, the Government having thrown away the reformist window dressing needed for the elections, has set about eradicating what it sees as Marxism. Leninist pressure for a more equitable society. And, in some cases, the methods used recall those of the 1932 uprising. According to Father Higinio Alas, an area of 500 square kilometres in Aguilar, north of the capital, was sealed off by the armed forces, the guerrilla and police during May using tanks, aircraft and tear gas. The military went through every home in the district and where they found pictures of Rutilio Grande, a Jesuit priest killed in March, they systematically looted the houses, raped, and took away documents and things of value. The church was taken over as a barracks and all its ornaments violated. An estimated 350 to 400 people died in the raid, and to ensure the lib-

erate peasantry fully understood the Government's opinion of the Church, a priest, Father Victor Geyerra, was dressed up in a guerrilla uniform and photographed. Many priests have now fled for their lives, but so far no one in the Church hierarchy has suffered. An ambassador, auxiliary Bishop Arturo Rivera had been prepared, but he was tipped off, and went into hiding. Few observers believe that the Romero regime would dare go as far as killing Jesuit priests, but even if the death line passes without further trouble, great damage has already been done to relations between Church and state and between the peasants and the Church. The future for those outside the Government and landowning sectors looks bleak. As one of the peasant leaders put it: "The Molina Government was one of reform and repression. Now, under Romero there will be repression without the reform."

David Watts

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LEAPMAN IN LONDON

I suppose there are people, better organized than I, who manage to survive satisfactorily without surrounding themselves with masses of clutter. There must be some with the capacity to acquire only the things they need, then to throw them away in an orderly fashion when they have outlived their usefulness. I suspect, though, that my own behaviour is more typical of the species at large. Only when faced with the prospect of moving house do I steel myself to explore the contents of lofts, cupboards and spare rooms to see exactly how much stuff I have and what I am to do with it.

How on earth did I amass it all? Whatever did I do for? And why, when it became redundant, did I stow it in a cardboard box with sundry other items and leave it undisturbed?

Where did I get the model crocodile shaped from a small tank? The silver-plated cigarette box engraved with some one else's initials? The slide-rule device which calculates the likely winners of American horse races (without the instructions and thus useless)? Why do I have so many packs of playing cards, all containing between 40 and 60 cards?

Moreover, how did I get hold of all those cardboard boxes, and with the apparently magical quality of reproducing themselves however many I throw away?

Then there are the books. We once employed a house cleaner who would clean when we had read all the books in our book-

cases. Whether we answered yes or no, her response would be the same: "Then what are you keeping them for?"

That was some time ago, and our library has since multiplied mightily, as books do. What criteria should we use to decide which to take with us, which to store in the cellar and which to give to the school jumble sale? Do we keep the ones we have read, or those we have not? And what about theatre programmes, football programmes, guides to stately homes? Will they appreciate in value if we store them away, or simply go brown and disintegrate?

With a child the difficulty is more pronounced. Our seven-year-old son, no doubt manifesting a strong tribal instinct for the accumulation of possessions, is most reluctant to part with anything. I ask him why he wants to keep the box of those numbered plastic tags which Marks and Spencer put on hangers to denote sizes. "I collect them," is the unchildlike reply. He also collects stones, sea shells and chewing gum.

What can we do with half-completed colouring books or drawing pads? They can be used up, so it would be a waste to throw them away. The same applies to the extraordinary and large quantities of gummed and coloured paper which lurk at the back of every bookshelf and cupboard.

No toy or game, however broken or little used, can be given up. When I point out to my son that he has not played

with that particular one for some time, he confided that he really feels like a game with it right now, but supposes that I am too busy to join him. I thus provide a clue to our propensity for amassing junk. For most of them were not built to fulfil a need, real or imagined, but arrived as gifts. The same is true of the more inexplicable adult possessions. Human generosity keeps some branches of commerce alive, and many cupboards filled to bursting.

Take kitchen gadgets. I think I could run a perfectly efficient kitchen with just one gadget—a sharp knife. Yet our kitchen drawers are piled with equipment, much of it donated by well-off friends, and it is for the performance of functions which we have long forgotten.

What, for instance, is that implement with a marble-sized scoop at one end. My wife thinks it is for making melon balls, which seems intrinsically unlikely, and in any case we never made any. Nor have we ever used the set of books for hanging potatoes in the oven for baking.

Not everything can be blamed on the generosity of friends and relatives. Most of us are compulsive buyers of some items, and with me it is shirts and ties. I have more than I decent and I can scarcely bear to give any away, however worn or ill-fitting.

When I am finally persuaded to donate a few to the jumble sale I go through agonies of indecision. Even after the goods are safely clear from the house I wonder whether I have been rash; whether I might not have had one or two more wearings out of that shirt, even though the collar is in shreds. It must be to do with living in a society whose prosperity and what there is of it, is based on trying to persuade people to buy more of everything than they can possibly use. I was going to call it a consumer society but it is not for to consume something means discarding it when we are an acquisitive society. We acquire things and hoard them; and when there seems no more space for hoarding we simply push what we have to the back of the cupboard to make room at the front.

Acquisitive societies probably develop into consumer societies ultimately. We are in a stage between the two. The Americans are better consumers than the British, in that they are better at throwing things away. Although we lived in the United States for three years until 1972, we did not acquire that knack; or if we did, we soon lost it again.

We may relearn it during our second stint in New York, which is about to begin. But by then it will be too late, because the depleted packs of cards, the reams of coloured paper, the unreadable books, the unwearable ties and the device for making melon balls are all by now on their way across the Atlantic.

Already I am getting nostalgic for things I shall miss when we

leave. Two of them are the National Theatre and British Rail.

Travelling to Cardiff on an uncomfortably hot morning in a well-equipped and luxurious cool air-conditioned train completed the journey smoothly in less than two hours. I must admit I should not be enjoying such fast and convenient travel in the United States. Even the *Metroliner* between New York and Washington when I last travelled on it, was neither as speedy nor as comfortable.

Mind you, not all of British Rail is as good as the Inter-City High-Speed service. A few Saturdays ago the race train from Waterloo to Sandown Park was ill-equipped and overcrowded, with a window that would not stay open. But not so long ago the race train from Penn Station to Belmont Park race track in New York was made up of those antiquated double-decker commuter coaches that used to feature in pre-war American films.

As for the National Theatre, now that it is well into its stride it will be a real deprivation to abandon it. We have made two farewell visits in the last two weeks to *Bedroom Farce* and *The Madras House*, both well-chosen plays, faultlessly staged and performed. For sure, there are good things to be seen at the New York stage, but they are mostly off Broadway, in theatres which are uncomfortable and hard to reach—and, worse of all, you can't buy a drink in the interval.



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PARATE COMMUNIST WAYS

row between Moscow and Carrillo, the Spanish Communist leader, seems unlikely to be forgotten quickly if Señor Carrillo himself can help it. Last week the Soviet weekly *Pravda* seemed anxious to record the hatchet, Señor Carrillo on French television.

Yugoslavia sharply rebuked Moscow for harmful "Stalinist-type" attacks. Bulgaria and East Germany did their duty to Moscow. The Czechoslovak regime, which lives in constant fear of a revival of the democratic ideas of 1968, denounced Señor Carrillo with a nervous venom that went far beyond Moscow's requirements. Poland remained eloquently silent for some time before quoting the *New Times* article without comment.

Possibly unnerved, or else influenced by the visit of an Italian communist delegation, Moscow then had second thoughts. A new article appeared in *New Times* complaining that the previous article had been misinterpreted by the bourgeois press. In tones of injured innocence it said that there had been no intention of "excommunicating" anyone, and that the previous article "did not contain a word directed against the activity of any party, including the Communist Party of Spain."

But Señor Carrillo had engaged in "a crude, open campaign against the Soviet Union" and had called for "struggle against the order existing in our country," so the Soviet Union had had to reply. It had not criticized the Spanish party as such. This annoyed the French even more than the first article, and they accused the Soviet Union of trying to split the Spanish party from its leader. There is nothing fundamentally new in these differences. The Spanish party has almost always had difficulties with Moscow. The Italian party has been criticizing the Soviet system since 1956, and with special vigour since the invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1968. The French are new recruits but in 1975 they joined the Italians in

saying they supported democratic rights and freedoms. Moscow has been tacking to and fro against Eurocommunism since at least August, 1975, when Mr Zardozd's criticisms in *Pravda* attracted so much attention.

What is significant now is the apparently unstoppable nature of this process of change and redefinition and Moscow's failure to reassert authority. Yet a complete break still seems unlikely. Western parties could split under the strain because they contain significant factions loyal to Moscow. The Russians would lose what influence they have in western Europe and

most of its eastern Europe, where most of the regimes have a strong interest in keeping the ideas of Eurocommunism within the bounds of permitted discussion. Probably there are also liberals in Moscow who would be sorry to see these ideas wholly anathematized.

The struggle will therefore continue to unsettle both sides of Europe. Which side will be more unsettled is still open. If Eurocommunism advances in western Europe it will have very profound disturbing effects on the western alliance and on American politics. If it advances in eastern Europe it will weaken Moscow's hold, with potentially disruptive results. Moscow can always send in the tanks, but it would be reluctant to do so, especially in Poland, where it could find itself embroiled in serious fighting. The West must rely largely on the power of the democratic idea and the good sense of its voters.

So far the most encouraging aspect of the whole situation is that even communists can no longer hope to prosper without paying homage to democratic principles—and this applies even in eastern Europe, where the words and some of the outward forms of democracy are still respected. If nothing else this should give the western democracies confidence that they can meet the challenge without sacrificing their principles.

The conduct of members

From Lord Boothby

Sir, You make a generous reference to me in your leading article this morning (July 15). I said what I had to say to the House of Commons about my own case in 1941. My speech was accepted by the House, and is on the record. I have no wish now to change it, or to add to it. But, in the light of my own experience, there are one or two comments I would like to make.

Select Committees of the House of Commons, or Lords, are not an appropriate body to act as a judicial tribunal. Nor are the special Courts of Inquiry which have, on occasion, been set up since the last war. I myself have a respect, amounting to a generation, for the Common Law of England, as it has been established over the centuries. The safeguards upon which it insists do not apply to Select Committees or to special Courts of Inquiry. For example, there is no charge. There are no pleadings. And nothing is privileged. Finally, there is no prosecution. As a result, one or more members of the committee or tribunal find themselves in the position of having to act, simultaneously, as prosecutor and judge. In my own case, from start to finish of the proceedings, I never had the foggiest idea what I was being accused of.

After the war Speaker Morrison gave a ruling from the chair. He said that the Rules of the House regarding the disclosure of interests applied only to votes, not to speeches; and had been very rarely used. There was no vote on the freeing of the Czech assets. I went immediately to consult him; and he agreed that the ruling had been given before my case came on. The report of the Select Committee must have been different. He then said: "What must be the first verdict in any domestic case since been given by your constituents, I would strongly advise you to let it go at that." I accepted his advice.

The truth is that formal "declarations of interest" in Parliament, which we have now become accustomed, are farcical. No one ever asks what the interests are, no one cares, and they have not the slightest effect on the course of the proceedings. I have watched the Vassalli case; and I have watched Mr John Belcher being hounded out of public life by Lord Shrewsbury because he accepted the gift of an overcoat and a weekend by the same. Neither was an edifying spectacle.

In conclusion, I would like to quote the words of Lord Robert Cecil, which must carry the greatest weight. About the Inquiry into the *Imperial*, in which he took part as counsel, he wrote: "A Select Committee of that kind is, I believe, almost the worst possible instrument for clearing up questions of personal responsibility. About the Select Committee of the Inquiry into the *Imperial*, a member, which inquired into the conduct of Mr Lloyd George and Sir Rufus Isaacs in the Marconi case, he wrote: "The whole incident confirmed me in the view that, for the purpose of the inquiry, a judicial inquiry, or tribunal could be worse than a Select Committee of the House of Commons."

Clearly, as a result of recent events, Parliament will have to reconsider its whole position. The law should be re-examined, not inquisitorial. Select Committees and special Courts of Inquiry smack far too much of the Inquisition and the Court of Star Chamber. For my part, I believe that, if any Member of Parliament is accused of a serious offence, a specific charge should be brought by the Attorney-General, or the Lord Advocate; and that the case should then be tried by the Supreme Court of the land, or the House of Lords, sitting in its judicial capacity. Your obedient servant, BOOTHBY, House of Lords, July 15.

Islamic social order

From Mr Altaf Gauhar

Sir, In your editorial "Riches and Poverty in the Muslim World" (July 12) you ask me whether I regard the new Pakistani Government's introduction of "amputation as a punishment for theft as a step in the direction of a more truly Islamic social order." Is not the important thing is first to establish a just and tolerant Islamic society in which everyone should be assured of basic needs and human dignity?

The real problem is not that people have two hands, but that millions of them are empty handed. Yours sincerely, ALTAU GAUHAU, 37 Farley Court, Allport Place, NW1, July 15.

The Grunwick dispute

From Mr J. Moss

Sir, Mr. H. M. (July 14) asks who paid the 13,000 "workers" demonstrating in support of the Grunwick strikers? Presumably they were paid by those who paid the 336,000 who were at Wimbledon two weeks earlier. Yours faithfully, J. MOSS, 14 Jockey's Fields, Holborn, WC1, July 15.

From Mr D. R. C. Engleheart
Sir, Mr. Arthur Scargill, the Yorkshire miners' leader, is reported in today's *Times* as calling for a factory to be treated "as a loper." Is not Mr Scargill out of date by several centuries? Lepers today are treated by intelligent people with compassion. Under civilized conditions the disease is not even catching. With patience and understanding it can be cured.

Perhaps Mr Scargill should learn some of these up-to-date methods and use his massive influence to apply them. Yours faithfully, DAVID ENGLEHEART, Moffat School, Moffat, Wiltshire, Wiltshire.

The morality of Tory ideals

From the Leader of the Opposition

Sir, In my last Macdonald Memorial Lecture, I advised my audience of Young Conservatives to read Adam Smith for themselves at first hand or run the risk of being misled by second-hand versions, not least from his detractors. From what he writes, the Vicar of Harwell and Chilton (July 11) seems to have ignored a large part of Adam Smith's work. Smith was a moral philosopher of some standing before he turned his attention to the study of economics which placed the whole world in his debt. He had devoted his main inquiries to the place of man in society. In his economic studies he certainly did not exclude the moral and social dimensions, on the contrary.

I shall not attempt to rehearse all Smith's arguments in the course of a letter. Suffice it to say that setting out from a philosophy which recognized human motivation as mixed, Smith argued that we were to depend solely on the benevolence of our fellow-men we should receive short shrift. However by harnessing men's natural impulse to improve their own condition and that of their families as well as to deserve the approbation of their fellow-men, the market economy visibly brought great benefits to the greater number.

Smith never suggested that self-interest alone was sufficient to bring the Good Life, or that man can live by bread alone. By contrast, Marx's dialectical materialism gave pride of place to economics. Marx expressly argued that economic change would underlie all other change throughout human history, that religion, politics, ethics, the arts and letters are nothing but "superstructure" conditioned by the basic economic realities. Perhaps the only reason that Marx has been so successful in the eyes of some of our fellow-men is that he has laid down Smith. He appears to believe that Marx stood for equality, as well as for benevolence and other Christian virtues. Surely, then, he must have asked himself how it is that he is so successful in the eyes of some of our fellow-men. I would strongly advise you to let it go at that. I accepted his advice.

I have never claimed that my views or those of my Party are the sole interpretation of Christian truth into social terms. I stated

Keeping theatres alive

From the Secretary-General of the Arts Council of Great Britain

Sir, The frustration of Howard and Wyndham's chairman is understandable: a commercial undertaking can hardly be expected to maintain indefinitely assets on which continuous losses are incurred. Much of what Mr Fields said in his letter of July 14 the Arts Council would agree with. But his charge that the Arts Council has had no effective interest in or policy for the theatres is aimed at the wrong quarters.

It was the Arts Council's own *Theatre Today* report of 1970 which first drew national attention to the serious plight of touring theatres. It urged that "if the remaining independent commercial theatres are to remain open for only a few years, nearly all of them is also 'go municipal'." The... dozen in private ownership are the most vulnerable and unless taken over by local authorities are unlikely to survive. The Arts Council has provided the foundation of the Council's subsequent policy of financing a national touring scheme under which additional guarantees have been provided to the major opera, ballet and drama companies to enable them to cover the costs of visiting a circuit of large and medium sized touring theatres throughout the country.

The amount of money provided in this way has increased from £200,000 in 1970-71 to approximately £3m in 1977-78. Had the Arts Council not adopted this policy it is unlikely that any of the major touring theatres would have survived. The Arts Council has been public or private ownership. In addition, the Council has contributed over £300,000 by way of capital to help improve the facilities at 29 touring theatres, to purchase of new equipment, to staff, stage equipment and better facilities at both back and front of house. The Council offered to make available a substantial sum for this purpose to the Royal Court Theatre, Liverpool, but neither the local authority nor Howard and Wyndham could agree at the time on terms which would have made it possible for us to release this money. The Arts Council has devoted a great deal of time and effort in negotiations with the relevant local

Blasphemy as a crime

From Mr Robert Reedman

Sir, I have not read Professor Kirkup's offending poem and in the ordinary course of events I would not have known about it. Because of my respect I have for the poet I have re-read a volume of his poems which contains the poem "Christ Rejected"—this is so far removed from blasphemy that I am amazed he could stand in such odium.

It is clear from your leading article that you and I have a deep mistrust of Mr Paisley as a guardian of the protestant cause: equally I have a profound mistrust of Mr Whitehouse as a champion of morality. As a Protestant I regard Mr Paisley as having done irreparable harm to the protestant cause and to the same degree Mr Whitehouse as a guardian of morality. I can only hope that the damage is not in the same proportion. Yours faithfully, ROBERT REEDMAN, Stratford sub Castle, Salisbury, Wiltshire.

From Mr J. G. Craddock
Sir, The disdain, expressed in your news columns on July 12 by the National Council for Civil Liberties, for "the standards of a religion practised by only a minority of the country" fills the mind with questions.

From Mr Christopher Turner
Sir, The coincidence of a book and a trial prompts a question: if Jesus is not God in any real sense of the words, can it be blasphemy to insult him? Yours faithfully, CHRISTOPHER TURNER, H/B "The Joseph", Scotland Bridge Road, West Byfleet.

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Dismissal of Mr Whitlam

From Sir Alexander Downer

Sir, In your interesting report today (July 15) of Sir John Kerr's resignation, recalling the Australian constitutional crisis of November, 1975, you mention that "Sir John used the little-known 'reserve powers' of the British Crown, to get rid of Mr Whitlam..." Such a statement immediately invites speculation as to whether, in fact, such powers subsist in the Australian Constitution. They may—but it is misleading to raise this point in the present Australian context. For, as I understand it, the basis of the Governor-General's action lay in his interpretation of the powers and responsibilities vested in him by the Australian Constitution—a statutory instrument of government quite separate from the Crown's reserve powers.

Those who supported Sir John Kerr—and they include many of Australia's most eminent lawyers—did so on a reading of the authority inherent in his statutory position as an indispensable element in the Constitution. The reserve powers of the British Crown, as your report puts it, introduced a secondary issue which was not the central point of the 1975 controversy. Yours faithfully, ALEXANDER DOWNER, as from Mardunall, Williamsburg, New York, South Australia, July 15.

Sex Discrimination Act
From Mr Robert Alexander, QC
Sir, Mr. Francis Beggan suggests (July 15) that the first decision of the Court of Appeal on the Sex Discrimination Act will "throw the operation of the Act into disarray," and disregards its "plain meaning," with disturbing implications for employment and unions considered the rule of law. These are serious claims which can best be evaluated by a brief consideration of what was at issue in the case.

Men and women employed on the assembly line by Automotive Products Ltd. received equal pay and had equal contractual hours. The only discrimination suggested arose from the fact that some 30 years ago the company had introduced an administrative practice in the interests of the safety of its employees. Five minutes before the end of the day a bell was rung, whereupon all employees were entitled to cease work and prepare to go home. Before the bell was rung again at the end of the five minutes only those men employees who had received equal pay and had equal contractual hours were allowed actually to leave the premises.

It was accepted in all courts that this practice was intended to secure the safety of the women employees, and the evidence before the industrial tribunal was that otherwise they would be at risk in the hostile and crush when almost 4,000 men left the factory. Both sides agreed that there is a real danger that the public in those cities will no longer have the opportunity of seeing the productions of the national lyric and drama companies, not to speak of the pantomimes seasons and "light" entertainments which are part of the tradition of the theatre-going in this country. Yours faithfully, ROY SHAW, Secretary-General, Arts Council of Great Britain, 105 Piccadilly, W1, July 15.

From Mr Laurence Kitchen
Sir, In Sir Donald Albery's letter he speaks of the kind of show "that range people away from their television sets." That indeed is the live drama's problem; and part of it arises from the fact that theatre optics have undergone an irreversible change. Not only has the public long been conditioned to expect emphasis by close-up, but there is a tendency for those in front seats to resent the too obvious mechanics of "projected" acting and for those at the back to feel they are missing the show.

The force least subject to these objections are music, drama and the dance. Hence the importance of preserving the larger provincial theatres. Moreover, there has been a notable shift of talent where such as Doreen, Paul Winstanley and Gaskill have shown a marked interest in, if not preference for, mounting grand opera. Yours faithfully, LAURENCE KITCHIN, The Athenaeum, Falmouth, SW1.

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THE FALKLANDS PROBLEM WILL NOT DISAPPEAR

From the Secretary-General of the Falkland Islands

communicé issued after a conference in Rome last week between Britain and Argentina. The Falkland Islands hardly

needed much progress, though it is indicated that the Argentinians were more prepared than the past to recognize the

bracket of the islands' status. However Argentina has

insisted that those wishes are irrelevant to its

claim to sovereignty, as

Spain's claim to Gibraltar

drawn up in 1974. But form and substance has long realized that

Many Argentinians' wishes do impose

for the Government of the British

Government's liberty to dispose of

has suffered islands whatever the claim.

Argentina back as the mid-1960s,

it became evident that

in was abandoning empire

additionally, Argentina began

pressuring the Falklands,

passively with the cooperation

of the British Government.

Argentina's position is not Argentina's rights or

but British public

between Britain and Argentina have

been hard to break down the

almost completely in

the Government's power over their

communications. The Argentinians

are not the Falkland Islands.

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tried to buy the Falkland Islands Company which (not without criticism) runs the island's economy, but were frustrated by City vigilance. They want the

scholarships they give Falkland Islands' children in their schools

but seem to send them home with a deep affection for British

justice. The Argentinians, it ought to be realized, do not want the islands

for materialistic but for moral reasons. They have sustained

their claim through the period when the islands were poor and

dependent on the wool price. The recovery of the Malvinas

is to Argentinians of all ideologies and of all European antecedents

a national obsession, a patriotic imperative, unrelated to economic

motives. For the official mind the matter is one of compromise,

perhaps for condominium; the real estate represented by the

islands and their maritime resources, the potential of oil, the

unharvested wealth of the sea is not for the officials something

preserved for Britain by a four offshoot of our race for 150 years

—but an inconvenient imperial residue.

Against all experience the Foreign Office pursues a deal. The basis for that deal is Anglo-Argentine cooperation in exploit-

ing and developing the recently predicted oil resources. This would take ten years, the experts say, and they lay down two pre-

conditions for commercial success: use of Argentina's main-

land bases, and political concord. If the enterprise succeeded the

islands would be transformed and the islands' present attitudes

ceased to be relevant to the other hand, if nothing is done, the islands

will stay poor and so many will emigrate that in less than ten years the settle-

ment will disintegrate. Either way, the islands are told they are doomed.

But neither the islands nor the Argentinians accept that with a little patience the problem will disappear. In November, when the conference resumes, the

Argentinians will again demand British surrender. The islands insist that they remain British,

are self-sufficient, their wool and fish products, their marine protein of value to Britain. Even if they represent a British rear-

guard action, their defiance is heartwarming. To pressure them further to knuckle to Argentine machismo, would be to do greater harm to Britain's moral

than even to her economic interests.

Conservatives, if only because governmentally planned earnings are one key to a fully planned

society, are a sophisticated form of deleterious class war. Neither has been reckoned a Conservative objective, although a Conservative Govern-

David Wood

triumph

at is really

e Tories'

lealey, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, grasped the nettle and in a speech in the House of Commons on Friday in the Commons, he said: "Safety, that is, from a collapse of its reputation, from a loss of confidence in the Government, and from the Government's loss of a confidence vote on Tuesday night. It was probably the worst dispatch box performance of my career, especially as questions were asked. That came as the surprise."

Take a second surprise, at least for politicians who are governed by clichés than by thinking. That Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor-designate, made such a tactically ineffectual showing. He did fail to leave Mr Healey alone sitting among the wreckage of his vaunted economic measures. How did the Opposition perform? The Opposition's performance looked like a dispatch box performance. The answer ought to be plain. It was not. The Opposition's performance was a purely parliamentary display today rather than a campaign across the broad front of the nation's wealth. There is no special brand measure, such as monetary control, cash limits, and market forces, to curb pay demands. It is not precisely what they set out in March 1974 to do. It is what they have been obliged to do. Why should Sir Geoffrey last Friday have pretended that here he told the knell of economic wisdom. It was a very message he himself has unsparingly promoted.

Take a few random examples from his speech to a summer school in Cambridge on July 9: "The most that governments can and should do is to create the conditions in which the people of this country can set about achieving prosperity for themselves and each other. The illusions of the past few years are now publicly collapsing, before our eyes. This makes it possible to tackle this central task upon ground which is largely common to the parties. . . . We know that it is impossible to design a pay formula, any formula, which can indefinitely replace the workings of the labour market. There is no special brand measure, such as monetary control, cash limits, and market forces, to curb pay demands. It is not precisely what they set out in March 1974 to do. It is what they have been obliged to do. Why should Sir Geoffrey last Friday have pretended that here he told the knell of economic wisdom. It was a very message he himself has unsparingly promoted.

Three key areas of objection to current cost accounting



—Stepping Stones—Non-Secretarial—Secretarial—Temporary & Part Time Vacancies—

[illegible]

كتاب من الأصول

there is an alternative
\$1,000 cash. -

Harry Debelius

an uneasy truce now reigns. The Beethams have hung the mandatory curtains but keep Giuseppe Medici

the 1990s, the number of people in the world who are illiterate has increased from 1.2 billion to 1.5 billion. The number of illiterate people in the world is projected to reach 1.7 billion by the year 2015. The number of illiterate people in the world is projected to reach 1.7 billion by the year 2015.

wives, Mac Ilose of the bank of Vizcaya, for instance, to spend half their time in Bilbao and half in Madrid, strutting

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FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Now is the time to take a fresh look at Reed Intl

If there is such a thing as a corporate nightmare, Reed International has probably been through one. Leaving aside the vexed question of extraordinary payments to the previous chairman, the recent publication of the accounts sent the shares tumbling down on widespread City discussion of gearing, over-expansion and weak past management in overseas subsidiaries.

But there is a workable rule of thumb which proposes that shares become an attractive proposition in this type of situation if, and only if, an investor is sure the bad news is out of the way. This position, Buckmaster & Moore, appears to be saying, now applies.

Reed's problems are by no means swept under the carpet. Analyst, Mr Philip Field, pre-

faces his review by pointing out that the March, 1977 balance sheet shows over 200 per cent gearing. But he estimates that Reed will be self-financing for the next two years at least and should achieve a small cash surplus.

The chance of another rights issue—£33m was raised last year—is considered "fairly remote" since any funds would have scant balance sheet impact and in any case would be "a prohibitively expensive way of raising capital".

Steps have already been taken to upgrade financial controls and the firm believes that the group "will undertake fairly substantial asset disposals to both improve its financial structure and reduce its appetite for cash".

There are prospects of "con-

siderable relative capital appreciation in the longer-term" and the current two figure yield adds to Reed's attractions.

Mr Field is somewhat less sanguine about the future of shares in Inveresk Group, another paper and packaging manufacturer, which announced a £2.1m rights issue last week.

Brokers' views

The broker is forecasting pre-tax profits of £3.6m against £1.3m in 1977 and anticipates that Inveresk will achieve a far stronger performance in the future than in the past. But the shares are considered over-

valued since, in direct contrast to Reed, growth factors are fully discounted in the share price.

Now that the clearing bank results season is over, once again drawing much of the attention of Bill Caplin has been revising his view of Barclays Bank. The previous sell recommendation has been converted to a hold on the assumption that the prospective p/e ratio suggests that the shares will perform in line with the market in general as the recent outperformance has discounted the Barclays Bank International figures.

For 1977, analyst Mr Mark Odelschlag, expects parent bank advances to grow by around 8 per cent while overall gross margins are expected to fall by 0.8 per cent as the adverse effect of a lower base rate will be partly offset by a rise in the

proportion of current accounts to perhaps 44 per cent of total deposits. Operating costs are thought likely to rise by 15 per cent with increased charges bringing in around £16m.

Hidden bank debt provisions, Mr Odelschlag thinks, will remain a constant percentage of advances as 1977 will probably turn out to be a year of relatively satisfactory experience as was 1972, which will be the year subtracted from the average.

Barclays Bank International is rated in advance 30 per cent to £110m, over-valued with the depressed performance in South Africa and bad debts in Western Bank offset by expansion in North America, Western Europe and the international activities in the United Kingdom. Total bank profits are

thought probable to climb by 8.6 per cent to £215m.

The second of Vickers, de Costa's quarterly reviews of the entertainment catering and leisure component of the FT Actuaries Index highlights the correlation between the broad movements and turning points in the consumer spending trend and the relative strengths and weaknesses of the sector.

Analyst, Mr Max Doiding anticipates a sharp rise in consumer expenditure in the last quarter of 1977 with a period of positive consumer demand in the following two years. This, he feels, will represent a significant acceleration over 1974-77 and the sector relative performance should reflect such an outcome.

Ray Maughan

Lloyds, Midland in start to bank season

Results this week

TODAY: Interims—Burroughs—Machines, E. & M. Lloyds, Howard Machinery, A. Ker-shaw & Sons, London & Lomond Int. Tst. Meggit Hlgs, New Throghmorton Tst. Rank Organisation, Rank Precision, Finals—Alfred Preedy & Sons, Gen. Eng. (Radcliffe), Philip Harris (Hlgs), Norton (W.E.) (Hlgs), Rothchild Int. Tst. and Stanhope General Int. Co.

TOMORROW: Interims—H.T. Int. Mediam Int. Tst. Status Discount, Finals—Astra Ind. Grp, Birmingham Mint, Peter Braxton, Hlgs, Prop. HAT Grp, H. & R. Johnson, Richards Tiles, Jones Stroud, Magner Southern, M. L. Hlgs, and Ward & Goldstone.

WEDNESDAY: Interims—British Sugar Corp, Rotaflex, and Union Discount of London. Finals—Harold Ingram.

LRG International, Roul-ledge & Kegan Paul, S. W. Wood, GRP, Vita Tex, and Wyndham Eng.

THURSDAY—Interims—Assa Fisheries, Berisford, Com-mon Market Int. Tst, Habit Precision Eng. Lowe (Robert) Romney Int. Unigate, and West Coast & Texas, Regions Int. Tst. Finals—Alexandre Russell, Burt Boulton Hlgs, Derby Int. Dowry Grp, Hlgs, more, Maxwell Thomson, & Evershed, Redland & F. H. Tomkins.

FRIDAY: Interims—Lloyds Bank, Midland Bank, and Stenhouse Hlgs. Finals—Andersons Rubber and India Services.

Agrochemicals recover and Sandoz interim sales ahead

Sandoz AG reports from Basle that consolidated group sales rose 8.1 per cent to 2,755m francs in the first half of 1977.

The pharmaceuticals multinational noted that sales of Nordrup, King, which it acquired last autumn, were not included in this year's figures.

The agrochemicals sector "made a gratifying recovery", increasing its sales by 24.3 per cent. Sales of the food sector rose by 23.4 per cent.

Meanwhile the company said that it was not possible at this stage to forecast earnings for 1977 as a whole because of fluctuations on foreign exchange markets and also because of price uncertainties.

Hoffman-Gould

Hoffman Electronics Corporation and Gould Inc have agreed in principle to merge

International

Hoffman into Gould by exchanging one Hoffman common for 0.31 shares of Gould common stock. The merger is subject to approval by directors of both companies and Hoffman shareholders. Hoffman has some 1.75m common shares outstanding. Gould, Illinois, makes electronic and industrial products and has annual sales of \$1,500m.—Reuter.

IBM repurchase

International Business Machines Corporation has authorized the repurchase of up to 2.5 million shares of 5700m worth of its common stock, whichever is less. It said the purchases will be made

of blocks offered to it from time to time, generally in amounts of 5,000 shares or more. It will deal only with principals who are not brokers or dealers.—Reuter.

On-Line up 34 pc

On-Line Systems Inc, the international computer services group which recently opened an operations network in the United Kingdom through London-based subsidiary OLS Computer Services (UK), reports consolidated revenues \$16m (£9.3m) for the year to April 30. This is a 34 per cent increase on the previous year's returns. Earnings a share rose from 97 cents to a record \$1.56. Previously trading under the name of Leasco Response, OLS was formed on the acquisition of that company by On-Line Systems in September, 1975.

Exports dominant in Vinten's 78pc jump

By Ashley Drucker

Strong profit growth more than matched by earnings times increased 21 times brought a sharp rise in the Vinten Group. It designs, manufactures and markets film and television studio equipment, aerial reconnaissance systems, cameras and ground support equipment.

For the year to March 21 last it turns in pre-tax profits soaring 78 per cent to \$69,000 on the back of turnover some \$16m (£9.3m) against \$5.83m (£3.1m) for the year to April 30. This is a 34 per cent increase on the previous year's returns. Earnings a share rose from 97 cents to a record \$1.56. Previously trading under the name of Leasco Response, OLS was formed on the acquisition of that company by On-Line Systems in September, 1975.

will be to increase the issued and paid-up share capital in £110m.

Much of the company's current strength comes from the penetration into overseas markets. This produced direct exports making up over 33 per cent of group turnover.

Finance has also improved with a resultant decrease in the company's gearing. This puts Vinten in a good position to finance future developments.

The order book is at a record in the current year, says Mr C. M. Brown, chairman, mainly from major contracts for aerial reconnaissance systems and related ground support equipment. Television mounting equipment is also going well, as are better shop cameras.

Generally, for the current year Vinten is again confident of turning in another good performance.

Freight report

Tanker trade hit by power cut

Electricity, or rather the lack of it, provided an unusual interlude in the trading pattern of international tanker chartering dealings last week, with the power cuts in New York bringing a temporary halt to such activities.

The absence of the New York charterers meant that last week ended on a very active note as efforts were made to catch up. A series of orders covering all major loading areas, with the possible exception of the Gulf, flooded into the London market on Friday from across the Atlantic.

Part of this influx centred on Marathon which is chasing more period tonnage this time tied in with an option to buy included. Reuter's reports booked a 121,000-tonner for 12 months' trading and brokers indicate that its latest bid concerns a vessel of 136,000 tons d.w.

The rate is reported to be 95 cents equivalent to worldwide 33.5 and the optional purchase price is understood to be \$8.5m.

Apart from the New York incident, the overall position of the market remains about the same. However, BP was one of the more active companies with its fixtures including a 128,000-tonner for four consecutive voyages between the Gulf and Mediterranean at worldwide 28.5 and a vice for a Gulf to UK/Continental trip at worldwide 21.

At midweek a number of orders for vice tonnage for Gulf/West voyages emerged but few firm fixtures were made out of these by the week's close. Brokers feel that with the shadow of surplus tonnage still lingering over the Gulf the immediate outlook, and probably that for the rest of the summer, is gloomy.

David Robinson

Briefly

McCleery in loss at midterm

After interest charges up from \$54,000 to £222,000, McCleery L'Amie Group turns in a pre-tax loss of £263,000 (compared with a profit of £260,000) for the six months to April 30 last. Sales rose £3.53m to £10.2m. The loss a share came to 0.53p against earnings of 1.64p. There is no interim dividend against 0.75p.

Much as expected, in the rope and twine division, the half year results were admirably better than the recent months however the division has met slightly better trading and the costly move to new premises is now completed. Carpers were also disappointing but textile yards did well though trade is far from uniformly buoyant.

HOWDEN GROUP

The chairman is Sir Norman Elliott and not Mr R. V. Grob as stated here on Thursday. Mr Grob is the chairman of Alexander Howden Group.

DEBOR STEADY

The profits of Debcor, subsidiary of Matthews Holdings, in cosmetics, £31,000 against £30,000 for 15 months on turnover of £204,000 against £224,000. Dividend for 1976 0.35p against 0.67p for 15 months.

EQUITY & LAW LIFE

Half-yearly results assured of £376m against £460m, annual premiums £6.6m against £7.1m, and single premiums £7.3m against £5.3m.

MK REFRIGERATION

As forecast, on turnover for 26 weeks to April 30 of £7.29m against £5.5m, pre-tax profit of £1.37m compared with £750,000.

OLIVETTI OPENING

Olivetti EC SPA reports sales up 25.5 per cent to £1.2m in the first half of 1977. Domestic orders up 48.3 per cent and world market orders 24.9 per cent.—Reuter.

Colmore's rejection rinoste

By Our Financial Staff

The directors of Colmore Investments have come out with a strong rejection of the latest offer, the third, from T. Cowie. Mr J. R. Charlesworth, deputy chairman, tells shareholders in a circular at the weekend that, apart from any income loss of at least 42.5 per cent, any acceptance of the offer would mean the future benefits of Colmore's re-shaping and excellent prospects.

An up-to-date valuation of the company's properties shows a value of some £1.75m or £22,000 above the book entry, and is equivalent to 15.6p for each Colmore share.

An audited balance-sheet which will be sent out when Cowie's offer has been rejected will disclose net assets of £1.9m or 47.6p a share. To this is added the excess value of the properties of 15.6p, making 63.2p a share.

"Why sell your assets to Cowie at less than half their value?" the Colmore board asks members. With the support of its advisers, Warburgs, the Colmore board, associates and the Colmore Pension Fund, owning a total of about 30.9 per cent, are not accepting.

The bid affair, beginning in May, had all the initial potential for an all-out clash. Some four months ago Cowie bought a 20 per cent stake in Colmore from Maurice James (Holdings) for £161,000 in cash and shares. Since then it had acquired a further holding which took the total to 29.9 per cent.

Since the initial approach on May 14 Cowie met with little success. Having twice raised its offer, it holds a total of 37.5 per cent. The offer closes on Friday.

Cowie is in the sale and service of motor vehicles, vehicle finance and contract hire. It also has a finance division. Colmore itself is a multi-franchise operation, including Fiat, Lancia, Ferrari and Datsun.

Business appointments

New chief executive for Leslie & Godwin (UK)

Mr Clive Williams has been appointed a director of Leslie & Godwin (Holdings) and has been made chief executive of Leslie & Godwin (UK).

Mr D. F. Dodd has joined the board of Johnson and Firth Brown.

Mr W. Goldstein has become chairman and Mr R. A. Barnett group managing director of Ellis and Goldstein (Holdings). Mr D. Cannon, and Mr S. Cope are retiring from the board.

Lord Tryon has been appointed chairman of English and Scottish Investors. Mr P. L. Lamson becomes a director. Sir Nicholas Cyster has retired as chairman and a director.

Mr M. S. Lipworth has been named deputy managing director of Handley & Co. Mr C. J. Litch, Mr F. Murray and Mr D. F. A. Pell become executive directors.

Mr T. G. S. Leach, managing director of A. Long, has been appointed to the board of the parent company, Mears Bros Holdings.

Mr A. M. Littlejohn has been appointed director of the newly formed Independent Association, which is to look after the interests of the sectors of the industry which were not nationalized. Littlejohn was previously director-general of the Clay Pipe Development Association.

Mr Kenneth Waters has joined the board of Vale Catto as an executive director. Mr C. I. T. can has retired as an executive,

but remains a non-executive director.

Mr R. H. Watson becomes an executive director of Barclays Merchant Bank.

Mr John West has been appointed managing director of Northern Star Insurance.

Mr J. D. Stirling Callacher joins the main board of Sutcliffe Catering Group and has been made managing director of Sutcliffe Catering Company (South).

Mr Jonathan S. Ligon has been appointed the American Express regional vice-president for the United Kingdom and Ireland, Germany, Austria and Switzerland.

Mr S. C. Mountjoy, of L. M. Fischer, has been elected president of the Federation of Oils, Seeds and Fats Association.

Mr Austin Bennett has become managing director of World Records.

Mr J. B. Dixon has become an additional director of C. E. Heath (London). Mr G. F. Mengell and Mr T. P. Newbery have been made additional directors of C. E. Heath (Southern).

Mr H. F. Stupples has been elected a director of Through Transport Mutual Insurance.

Mr B. H. Cuthbertson, chairman of Westfield Investment Trust, has been succeeded by Mr W. R. Watson. Mr Cuthbertson continues as a director.

Mr C. M. Swales has joined the board of Mid-Supers Water.

Mr C. T. Vance has been appointed to the board of Fork Farms.

The growing strength of HOGG ROBINSON

Results year ending 31 March	1977	1976
Turnover	£24,544	£18,747
Being:		
Insurance Broking: United Kingdom	13,396	10,661
Overseas Subsidiaries	5,300	3,997
Lloyd's Underwriting Agencies	1,598	1,240
Shipping, Forwarding & Travel Agencies	4,250	2,849
Profit Before Taxation	8,064	5,933
Being:		
Insurance Broking	3,785	2,794
Lloyd's Underwriting Agencies	1,314	1,000
Shipping, Forwarding & Travel Agencies	256	157
*Investment Income and Profits on Sales	1,873	1,357
Share of Associated Companies	591	390
Exchange Gains on Consolidation	205	235
Profit Attributable to Shareholders	3,993	3,065
After deduction of:		
Taxation	3,802	2,850
Minority Interests	269	237
Extraordinary Profits	—	(219)
Dividends	1,244	676
Retained Earnings	2,749	2,389
Earnings Per Share	18.28p	13.85p
Dividends Per Share	5.525p	3.38p

*Excluding investment income derived from Shipping, Forwarding & Travel Agencies.

2/After adjustment for Rights Issue.

36% PRE-TAX PROFIT GROWTH

Commenting on the results, the Group Chairman and Chief Executive, Mr Morris Abbott, said:

"This is the sixth consecutive year of earnings growth with pre-tax profits increasing this year by 36 per cent. A significant feature of our performance was that all parts of the Group contributed through increased business and by reducing expense ratios. Some 55 per cent of our broking income was received in foreign currencies and, whilst the greatest profit growth has come from our international and overseas operations, United Kingdom Companies also have achieved excellent results. Underwriting Agencies have made a worthwhile contribution, particularly as the 1974 account, in general produced poor underwriting results. Our travel and freight operations have almost doubled their profits, partly as a result of our increased investment in this area."



HOGG ROBINSON

The Board is recommending a final dividend of 2.275p net per share, which with the interim dividend paid in March makes a total of 5.525p.

Hogg Robinson Group Ltd, Lloyds Chambers, 9-13 Crutched Friars, London EC3N 2JS. Tel: 01-709 0575. Telex 884633

STREETERS OF GODALMING LIMITED A RECORD YEAR

Extracts from the Chairman's additional remarks at the Annual General Meeting held on 14th July, 1977.

As forecast a year ago, we carried out last year an adequate turnover in a restricted market and I am very pleased to report that we were able to improve our profit margin substantially.

You will note that the Group Pre-Tax Profits in the U.K. were almost doubled. Additionally there was an Exceptional Profit of approximately £345,000, which resulted from a variation in the rate of exchange with regard to the sale of plant and equipment for use in Saudi Arabia on terms agreed at the time of shipment. It is unlikely that this profit will be repeated. You will note that the Revenue Reserves have been increased by more than two and a half times the figure of the previous year to £1,043,000.

Regarding Dividends

The maximum dividend permissible is being paid.

I regret that Government Legislation prevents the Company giving the shareholders a better return on their investment.

I have to report certain changes in your Board. Firstly, Mr. Richard Bower, who has been with us for six years, is leaving to take up an appointment in the Middle East. He goes with our good wishes and I am pleased that he will continue to be associated with us through Streeters Saudi Arabia.

Mr. Peter Hunter, F.C.A., will be joining the Board on 1st August as Group Financial Director.

I am delighted to welcome Mr. Alan Gibson. He has joined the Board in pursuance of our intentions to diversify the Company's activities in other areas of civil engineering, in which he has a successful background.

Future Prospects

You will no doubt wish to know if I can elaborate further on our Associated Company's activities in Saudi Arabia. I think that I should at this time do no more than re-state the words of the paragraph that appears in our Annual Report. Namely, that Streeters Saudi Arabia, which operates under Streeters management, has experienced unforeseen trading conditions resulting from the decision of the Government of that Kingdom to delay many major projects to reduce internal inflation and demand. However, the success of these measures will lead to an alleviation of their application during the current year, and our competitiveness in our field gives us every reason to anticipate success.

Regarding future prospects in the U.K., you will know that the Construction Industry was again afflicted by Government Policy. This time in the form of a six month moratorium on the letting of contracts. Fortunately, in the case of Water-Authority work, which includes sewerage, this moratorium was lifted in April and since then we have received a steady flow of contracts for which to tender and, in the circumstances, I am pleased to report an adequate workload well into 1978.

Existing contracts show the increasing trend of profitability I was able to report for 1976.

Thus we can look forward to very satisfactory results for 1977.

E. A. STREETER, Chairman.

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)

[illegible]

